花とゆめCOMICS

BOKU WO TSUTSUMU TSUKI NO HIKARI

– EMBRACED BY THE MOONLIGHT –

SAKI HIWATARI

9

BOKU WO TSUTSUMU TSUKI NO HIKARI 〔9〕

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花とゆめCOMICS

>compilation<

Searching for her two mothers, Kachiko has come with Ren and Rin to Boston, Massachusetts in America, where Mikuro lives. There, she runs into a number of people while finding out the secrets of her birth. Furthermore, what kind of other business is Rin up to that is causing such a fuss?! An additional story about Rin's middle school days is included here in volume 9. ☆

~Originally published in Bessatsu Hana to Yume~

●日渡早紀の本

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偶然が残すもの―記憶鮮明Ⅱ―
GLOBAL GARDEN　全8巻
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作品かいせつ

2人の母を捜し求め、カチコは蓮や輪と共に未来路の住む米国・ボストンへ渡ることに。そこでカチコは自分の出生の秘密を知る意外な人物と出会う。一方で蓮とカチコと別行動の輪はある計略の元、大騒動を引き起こし!?中学時代の輪を描いた特別よみきりも収録の第9巻☆

花とゆめCOMICS

Boku Wo Tsutsumu Tsuki No Hikari

-Embraced By the Moonlight-

VOLUME 9

SAKI HIWATARI

CHARACTER INTROS

Kobayashi Alice
(Maiden name: Sakaguchi)

REN'S MOTHER. SHE'S MARRIED TO RIN AND WORKS AS A VOCALIST. SHE HAS THE ABILITY TO SENSE WHAT PLANTS ARE FEELING.

Kobayashi Rin

REN'S FATHER. HE USED TO SUFFER UNDER THE WEIGHT OF SHION-HIS FORMER IN-CARNATION'S- MEMORIES, BUT NOW HE HAS A HAPPY FAMILY LIFE WITH ALICE. HE IS A FREELANCE COMPOSER WITH POWERFUL ESP.

Kobayashi Ren

THE MAIN CHARACTER, AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STU-DENT. AFTER AWAKENING HIS PSYCHOMETRIC ABILITIES, HE'S TAKEN A STRONG INTER-EST IN RIN'S PAST, BUT...?!

BOKU WO TSUTSUMU TSUKI NO HIKARI

Mokuren

ALICE'S PREVIOUS INCARNATION. TOGETHER WITH-SHION, SHE NOW WATCHES OVER KOBAYASHI REN AS A GUARDIAN ANGEL.

Shion

RIN'S PREVIOUS INCARNATION. HE NOW WATCHES OVER KOBAYASHI REN AS A GUARDIAN ANGEL.

Yakushimaru Mikuro

KACHIKO'S FATHER...AND AN ESPER AT THE EPIA IN AMERICA.

Yakushimaru Kachiko

REN'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND WHO INHERITED ESP FROM HER FATHER, MIKURO. HER MOTHER, PAMELA, IS A FELLOW ESPER AND EMPLOYEE WITH MIKURO AT THE EPIA. SHE CURRENTLY RESIDES WITH THE KOBAYASHI FAMILY.

"KACHIKO'S CIRCUM-STANCES" THE STORY THUS FAR

EVERYONE IN THE KOBAYASHI HOUSEHOLD IS EXCITED ABOUT ALICE'S PREGNANCY. IN SPITE OF THAT, KACHIKO HAS ANNOUNCED THAT SHE WANTS TO LIVE WITH HER FATHER MIKURO IN AMERICA! HOWEVER, MIKURO HAS HIS REASONS FOR AVOIDING LIVING WITH HER...

MIKURO CONFESSED TO RIN THAT, LIKE HIMSELF, KACHIKO WAS BORN OF A SURROGATE MOTHER. MIKURO HAD ALSO EXPERIENCED MUCH DISTRESS ABOUT HAVING TWO MOTHERS, WHICH HE EXPRESSED TO RIN.

USING CONTACT TELEPATHY, MIKURO TRANSMITTED HIS MEMORIES TO KACHIKO OF WHEN HE FOUND OUT HIS COWORKER IN THE EPIA, PAMELA, WAS PREGNANT AS KACHIKO'S SURROGATE MOTHER. THOUGH SHE WAS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT OUT, KACHIKO MADE A DECISION, AND REQUESTED TO GO TO AMERICA TO SEARCH FOR HER TWO MOTHERS.

THOUGH RIN AND REN HAVE AGREED TO GO ALONG, MIKURO IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IF THE EPIA FINDS OUT ABOUT RIN'S ESP...!!

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This story is a work of fiction. Any resemblance of the events, names, personalities, places, or organizations in this story to actual names or events is coincidence.

...Well then.

They've made their way to Boston in America.

WOOW!

ポプラを包む月の光

Kachiko's Circumstances #5

CITYVIEW
104

Chapter 43

...SIGH...

Don't cry

NOPE. I DON'T THINK THAT'S THE CASE.

I GUESS ALICE-SAN DIDN'T GET HOW I FELT AFTER ALL...

COME ON, KIDS.

Kachiko-chan, I wanna go look over here, how about you?

I wanna go over here instead!

WE'RE GOING TO MIKURO'S APARTMENT.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN HOW DID THINGS SUDDENLY TURN OUT LIKE THIS?

IT'S DULL.

SO SORRY ...

YEAH, YEAH.

LET'S JUST GET TO YOUR APARTMENT.

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering 1:

Hello, I'm happy to see you again. I'm the author, Hiwatari Saki. Thank you very much for picking this up.

"Boku-Tsuki" has already reached nine volumes. This is really thanks to all of you reading it... no amount of gratefulness is enough. I need to thank you all for giving me strength, too.

I've always been a little slow with my artwork, but I'll keep doing my best to produce works that you'll enjoy reading~! ¥(^。^)/

Anyway, as you can see, I've started typing out my comment instead of handwriting them! Why? Well, it's a little late in the game, but I've started writing a blog and I wanted to introduce it to you all.

Grr!
THAT'S JUST 'CAUSE IT'S JAPANESE STYLE!
How disappointing
HUUUUUH? WHAT'S WITH THIS? IT DOESN'T LOOK FOREIGN AT ALL!
WHY DONTCHA' JUST GO HOME THEN!
IT'S EVEN GOT TATAMI MATS... GEEZ, BOOOORING!

...

HHM...

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE DELUDING YOURSELF INTO THINKING YOU'RE IN JAPAN.

MY FRIENDS HERE SPEAK HIGHLY OF IT, ANYWAY.

WELL, SEEING AS WE CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE...

LET'S GO SEE LALE!!

OH.

IF YOU WANT TO SEE LALE, HOW 'BOUT YOU WAIT HERE HALF AN HOUR?

I'M SURE HE WANTS T' SEE YOU GUYS.

'CAUSE I JUST SENT HIM A TEXT AND I'M SURE HE'LL COME.

Got your attention, huh?

HUH?

WHY?!

SO IF I'M NOT HOME TONIGHT,

CAN YOU BE GOOD AND EAT A TASTY MEAL WITH RIN-KUN AND REN-KUN AND JUST WAIT? OKAY?

BY THE WAY, KA-CHIKO,

WHILE DADDY WAS IN JAPAN MY WORK PILED UP.

...KAY?!

EHHHH? REALLY?! I'LL GO TOO!

HOW COME YOU COULDN'T SAY THAT WHILE MIKURO WAS HERE?

HOW 'BOUT I JUST TAKE OFF RIGHT NOW?!

THAT'S SO IRRI-TATING!

Hmph

WELL, WHATEVER.

INCLUDING TODAY, WE ONLY HAVE FOUR DAYS HERE IN AMERICA.

WELL... EVEN AFTER HAVING SAID THAT, FOR STUFF LIKE SIGHT-SEEING WE DON'T HAVE TO STICK TO A PLAN.

SO THE QUESTION IS— KACHIKO, WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE MOST?

THE EPIA!

AND WHO DO YOU WANT TO MEET?

MOMMY AND THE DOCTOR GUY NAMED JEFF!

FIRST, LET'S GET THROUGH WHAT YOU WANT TO DO THE MOST

AND THEN AFTER THAT WE CAN DO WHATEVER WE WANT.

IT'D BE BEST IF WE WENT ACCORDING TO A PLAN.

IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS EFFECTIVE, YOU HAVE TO BE SURE OF WHERE YOU WANT TO GO AND WHO YOU WANT TO SEE.

AND WHAT DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT?

UM... A LOT...

NOW, REN.

ALL RIGHT, GOT IT.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

WHERE I CAN BE AT KACHIKO-CHAN'S SIDE!!

AND WHO DO YOU WANT TO MEET?

LALE, AND... KACHIKO-CHAN'S MOM.

AND WHAT DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT?

...WELL, I..

FIND OUT?

I'LL MAKE SURE I WON'T LET GO OF

KACHIKO-CHAN'S HAND.

AAAH

Shoooom!

アチ

SON, YOU'VE SPOKEN WELL!!!

FATHER IS MOVED!!!

THAT'S JUST WHAT ALICE-OBACHAN TOLD HIM T' DO.

OH, IS THAT SO?

THAT'S NOT ALL!

IT'S MY WILL-POWER!!

Alice as usual

Grrr!

AW, COME ON!!

ROGER.

Bows

BUT WOULD YOU MIND TAKING HIM WITH YOU?

KACHIKO... WE-L, HE WON'T DO MUCH MORE GOOD THAN GOLDFISH POO.

ALL RIGHT. I'VE LISTENED TO YOUR RE-QUESTS.

Heh Heh Heh

WHY'RE YOU BEING LIKE THAT, DAD?!

I THINK I'M GOING TO GO STAY AT A HOTEL NOT FAR FROM HERE.

I'VE GOT STUFF I KIND OF WANT TO DO, TOO.

THAT HAVING BEEN SAID, THOUGH, I CAN'T JUST ABAN-DON A COUPLE OF KIDS OVERSEAS.

I DID A LITTLE SOMETHING TO YOUR CELL PHONES.

I'M NOT GOING TO A HOTEL! I'M GOING TO STAY RIGHT HERE!

I KNOW THAT.

SO EVEN IF WE'RE SEPARATED YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET IN CONTACT WITH ME RIGHT AWAY.

THEY'LL BE CONNECTED DIRECTLY TO MY PC.

Hand-made

Yes?

WHAD'YA KNOW, IT WORKS!

OCCHAN, SOS.

IF REN JUST SAYS "DAD, SOS!" IN HIS, AND KACHIKO SAYS "OCCHAN, SOS" IN HERS...

SO DON'T LOSE THEM, OKAY?

BUT BEFORE YOU GO IN!

THAT, AND MAKE ABSOLUTELY SURE TO GIVE ME A CALL WHEN YOU GET TO THE EPIA,

JUST GIVE ME A CALL WHENEVER YOU WANT.

IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ANYTHING THOUGH,

LALE WILL PROBABLY BE YOUR GUIDE THROUGH THE EPIA, SO I'M NOT PARTICULARLY WORRIED.

HEY! IT'S LALE! LALE!!

HEY!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE BOTH BEEN WELL!

HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?!

...UH-HUH.

.. HMM... IS THAT SO...

REN!!

KACHIKO!!

AND I'M SURE PAMELA WILL BE REALLY HAPPY TO SEE YOU.

YEAH. I UNDER-STAND HOW YOU FEEL.

YOU'VE GOT A RIGHT TO SEE YOUR MOTHER.

I'M PRETTY SURE OF IT.

AFTER ALL, WHENEVER SHE SEES ME SHE'S ALWAYS ASKING ABOUT YOU.

YA REALLY THINK SO?!

BUT YA KNOW, LALE,

THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE I WANNA MEET TOO.

WOW!

I'M SO HAPPY TO HEAR THAT!!

AND IS NAMED JEFF?

IT SEEMS LIKE HE'D KNOW A LOT OF SECRETS ABOUT WHY I WAS BORN.

DO YOU KNOW OF A DOCTOR

WHO WEARS GLASSES THAT LOOK LIKE SUN-GLASSES

PAME-A-MOMMY IS THE MOTHER WHO GAVE BIRTH TO ME,

BUT SHE IS NOT MY BIOLOGICAL MOTHER.

I WAS BORN FROM A SURRO-GATE MOTHER.

"SECRETS ABOUT WHY YOU WERE BORN"?! AHAHA!

THAT'S A BIT OF A BROAD SCALE. WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN?

I'M NOT SURE HOW T' ASK,

BUT I'D LIKE TO FIND OUT JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THAT ALL IF I CAN.

...WELL.

STEP

IT'D BE NICE IF HE TELLS ME ANYWAY.

LALE?

AAH, IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY, BUT THANKS!

IT'S JUST REALITY, AFTER ALL.

...I'M SORRY, KACHIKO...

I... I DIDN'T KNOW...

WHAT?!

IT'S NOT THAT...

I'M SORRY ...

BUT IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR INFORMATION LIKE THAT, I...

I CAN'T BRING YOU GUYS INTO THE EPIA.

WHA—

WHY NOT, LALE?

WHY?

IT'S NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO BE MEAN, JUST... WELL...

I'M REALLY INDEBTED TO MIKURO-SAN, WHICH MEANS THAT...

...WELL...

I THOUGHT AT LEAST YOU'D UNDERSTAND

HOW I FEEL, YA KNOW, LALE?

AND TO BE HONEST, REN, YOU...

WELL...

HE'S SAID THAT IT'S BEST IF YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET INVOLVED WITH THE EPIA.

I JUST GET THE FEELING

THAT ISN'T SOMETHING MIKURO-SAN WOULD WANT ...!!

TO BE HONEST,

THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT MY OTHER MOMMY.

ANYBODY WOULD WANT T' KNOW ABOUT THEIR OWN ORIGINS.

EVEN IF YOU SAY IT'S PARTICULARLY SELFISH

I DON'T REALLY THINK SO.

ANYWAY, I STILL WANT TO MEET HER.

THE PERSON I WANT TO MEET MOST RIGHT NOW IS—

I WANT TO MEET PAMELA-MOMMY...!

CAN YOU AT LEAST UNDER-STAND THAT?!

...YEAH ..

...I DO.

LET'S GO SEE PAMELA.

I'LL BE YOUR GUIDE.

Ikemen, Pretty Lady.

can you hear me?

IT'S SO GREEN HERE!

THERE'RE A LOT OF UNIVERSITIES IN THE AREA.

WE'VE ALMOST REACHED THE EPIA.

It's like Kachiko-chan really wants

to know about her biological mom, too.

Well,

that makes sense.

I wanted to know about you guys so much that I downloaded information from Dad's cap.

JUST BEING BY HER SIDE DOESN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING, HUH...?

I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR KACHIKO-CHAN RIGHT NOW ?

...Downloaded information from the cap...?

CAMEL TROPHY

That's right...!!

—Oh...!

What if I download stuff about Mikuro-ojisan and Pamela-san this time...?!

WE'VE REACHED THE EPIA!

EH...

KA—

Glit ter

OK.

HI LALE, DIDN'T YOU ALREADY GO HOME*?

HI, BRIAN. COULD YOU GIVE ME SOME GUEST PASSES FOR THEM TO FOLLOW ME AROUND? THEY'RE BOTH NORMAL.

I TOLD HIM YOU'RE BOTH NORMAL SO YOU COULD GET PASSES, SO PRETEND YOU ARE, ALL RIGHT?

NORMAL...

*T/N With this font text is spoken in English.

I JUST FEEL LIKE THIS IS

SOMETHING MIKURO-SAN WOULD HAVE US DO.

PEOPLE WITHOUT ESP.

GLANCE

GLANCE

UH... SURE.

REN, HERE'S YOURS.

DEJA VU ...?

...THAT'S WEIRD

THAT, AND YOU TWO HAVE TO ACT LIKE YOU'RE NORMAL IN THERE.

I CAN'T TELL YOU ENOUGH, USING ESP IN THERE IS ABSOLUTELY AGAINST THE RULES!

THESE ARE TICKETS FOR ME TO INVITE YOU IN.

AS LONG AS YOU'RE WITH ME, I THINK WE'LL BE ABLE TO VISIT A LOT OF PLACES.

IN ANY CASE, IT'S GOOD ENOUGH TO GO SEE PAMELA, RIGHT?

IF SOMEONE OTHER THAN THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH THE EPIA USE ESP,

IT'LL SET OFF AN ALARM RIGHT AWAY,

AND THEN THEY'LL BE CAUGHT,

AND THEY'LL BE DETAINED

UNTIL THEY CAN DETERMINE THEIR IDENTITY.

I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE AFTER A...

HMMM.

I REALLY DO THINK...

IT'S JUST A LITTLE NICER THAN CONFINEMENT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "DETAINED"...?

POPS

TO KEEP YOU AWAY FROM HERE, RIGHT?

YOU BOTH KNOW THAT MIKURO-SAN ALWAYS WANTED

...GOT IT. WE JUST CAN'T USE ESP IN HERE, RIGHT?

RIGHT. ABSOLUTELY NO ESP USE INSIDE.

I WONDER IF KACHIKO-CHAN WILL BE ALL RIGHT...

HEY, DAN!

THESE ARE MY NORMAL FRIENDS FROM OUTSIDE THE OFFICE

HEY, LALE!

THEY'RE WITH ME.

OK, GO ON IN.

GOOD, KACHIKO-CHAN GOT THROUGH.

BEEEP

!!

BEEEP

BEEEP

BEEP

BEEP

...
HUH?!!

LALE?!

WE DIDN'T EVEN DO ANYTHING...

WHAT THE-?!

clack

THI...

THIS IS A JOKE, RIGHT?!

WE'VE BEEN LOCKED IN!!

Shoomp

Make absolutely sure

when you get to the EDIA, but before you go in!

to give me a call

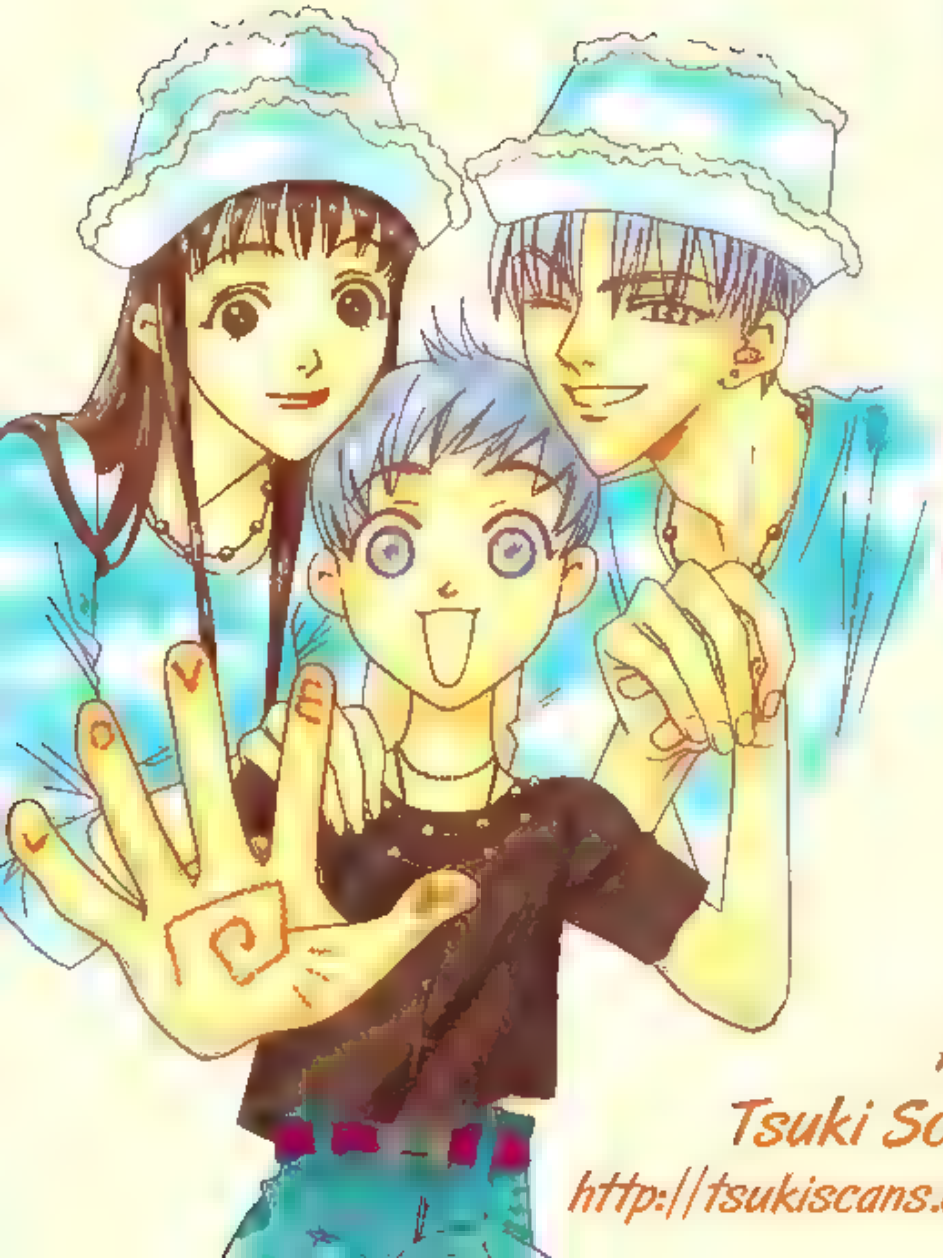
GASP

I blew it!!

Aw, crap!

AAAAH...

D... DAD, SOS—!!



Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari V09 ch43

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One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever

What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?

Shokuji Proofreader

Raijin Translator

Katana Admin

Huh?

FROZEN

Boss? Did you hear me?

WOBBLE

Oh, crap!

Katana-sama! Are you OK?

BONK!

Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did Shoujo manga cease to exist?

Oh, no! It was something much more sinister

STAFF SHORT-AGES!

SNAP!

HUGE PILES OF TRANSLATED CHAPTERS...

SPREAD THE NEWS, WE NEED NEW EDITORS AND QC-ERS STAT!

If you think you've got what it takes, contact us at esthetiquestaff@gmail.com

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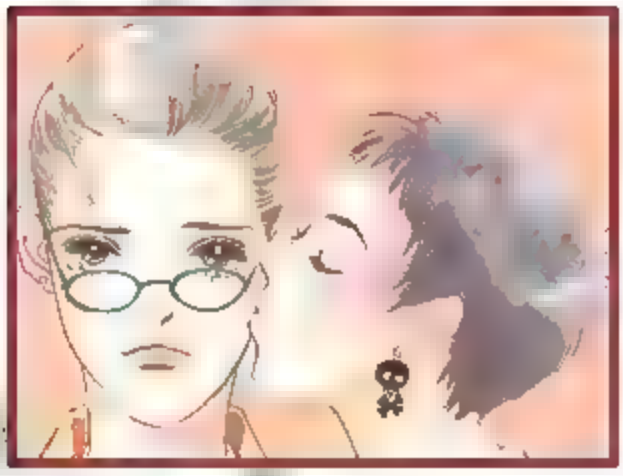

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but before you go in!

Make absolutely sure

to give me a call when you get to the EPIA.

...

NO WAY! HOW COULD THEY LOCK US IN?!

DAD, SOS AL-READY!

HUH?

WHAT'D YOU SAY?

You mean you got caught?

You're locked in the entrance way?

Just make sure you're back by dinner.

CLICK

WAIT!

...AH, WELL,

I FIGURED AS MUCH.

COM'ON, OPEN UP!

I FORGOT TO CONTACT YOU WHEN WE GOT HERE...

YEAH, THIS MIGHT BE BAD.

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering 2:

Hiwatari PLUS Diary

http://blog.goo.ne.jp/purasunikki

That URL is the address for my blog I only started on it last spring, so there's not that much on it yet Though the entries are few, please go visit it sometime.

Of course, these ¼ panel columns will continue to be full of my lengthy ramblings~ (laughs) Still, I'm happy that I can upload photos I can put up old sketches and rough drafts, and introduce my cats with pictures of them, so at some point when you have some free time, please take a look. You'll just have to forgive me for sporadic updates

I thought my blog would also be a good way to announce when new volumes are coming out and spread other news aimed at the fans, so I wanted to let you all know about it

Uhh, sorry about that, guys!
I'll open it up and let you out right now, just wait a second.
That sure was a surprise! Sorry, Lale.
The computer made a rare mistake.
Clatter
Clatter
Clatter

Have a nice day!

THANKS

THIS HAS BEEN EXHAUSTIN' RIGHT FROM THE START.

I WANNA HURRY UP AND SEE MOMMY.

RIGHT.

WELL, LOOKS LIKE WE GOT CAUGHT ANYWAY!

IT WAS A COMPUTER ERROR ...

I WONDER IF DAD DID SOMETHING...

I REALLY FEEL LIKE I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE...

UH... WHAT? UM...

You don't remember me at all?

MINE?

OHHH, THAT GUY.

YOU KNOW, THE GUY WHO WENT WITH US TO TOKYO TOWER?!

UM... MAYBE I'LL TRY ASKING, MINE.

I COULDN'T GET THROUGH TO PAMELA ON HER CELL.

...WHAT?

UH...

Gasp

...MAYBE IT'S FINE...?

IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO CALL HIM...?

SPEAKING OF MINE,

IN YOU AND YOUR DAD, REN...

HE'S A LITTLE... INTERESTED...

WHEN YOU COLLAPSED AT TOKYO TOWER,

AS SOON AS WE CONTACTED YOUR DAD HE SHOWED UP RIGHT AWAY, DIDN'T HE?

WHAT?!

HE SUSPECTS THAT YOU BOTH HAVE ESP.

WHY?

...

OH...

I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU,

MIKURO-SAN WOULDN'T WANT YOU HERE.

WE JUST GOT IN HERE...

DOES THAT MEAN THEY'RE GOING TO KICK US RIGHT OUT AGAIN?!

IF YOU WERE TO GET INVOLVED HERE--

BOTH REN AND KACHIKO,

AND REN'S MOM AND DAD.

REN, GO HOME.

GO HOME,

NOW.

NO

WAY.

GOT IT?!

IRKED

IT'S OKAY, LALE! JUST CALL HIM!! NOW!!

ARE YA STUPID OR WHAT?!

HELLO?

OH, LALE, WHAT'S UP?

Aaaah...

...WHAT?

KACHIKO...?

..HUH? UH, PAM?

...KACHIKO'S HERE... FOR REAL?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO INTRODUCE HER TO PAMELA?

...OH, 'CAUSE SHE'S YOUR FRIEND. OKAY.

CLICK

YUP, BYE

YUP, LATER. YOU SEEM KIND OF FRANTIC TO BE CALLING ME.

CHOMP

WAIT, THIS IS PRETTY BIG STUFF!

LET'S SEE, WAS PAMELA HERE TODAY?

UM... RIGHT!! SHE'S HERE, SHE'S HERE, I'M SURE.

SHE SAID SHE HAD SOME STUFF TO DO IN THE DOCUMENT WAREHOUSE IN BLOCK C.

I THINK SHE'D BE AROUND THERE IT'S KIND OF BROAD, BUT IF YOU LOOK AROUND THERE I'M SURE YOU'LL SEE HER.

I'VE GOTTA TELL RAY!

..HMMM...

THINGS HAVE BEEN BORING LATELY.

RAY!

HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

OH, THAT WAS IN JAPANESE.

IT'S KACHIKO, IN THE FLESH!! I JUST SAW HER ON THE MONITOR! SHE WAS JUST AT THE ENTRANCE–

TAKE A LOOK!!

KACHIKO CAME!

SHE'S HERE RIGHT NOW!

NOTHING INTERESTING AT ALL..

ISN'T SHE ADORABLE? KACHIKO'S KAWAII!

BUT WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE?

SEEMS SHE CAME TO MEET PAMELA.

I DON'T THINK THAT HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH HER, BUT LALE SAID

HE WANTS TO INTRO-DUCE HER BECAUSE SHE'S HIS FRIEND.

I WAS JUST AS SURPRISED TO SEE HER BACK IN AMERICA AS YOU ARE.

...KAWAII...

USING JAPANESE

HM? ISN'T PAMELA NOT HERE TODAY?

YEAH, I KNOW, BUT I TOLD THEM SHE WAS SO THAT LALE

WOULD TAKE HER TO BLOCK C TO LOOK AROUND.

SO WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO? I HEARD MIKURO'S BACK, TOO. ISN'T IT A DREAM TO MEET BOTH PARENT AND CHILD TOGETHER?

YEAH.

YEAH, THIS'LL BE INTERESTING!

I'LL HAVE TO APPROACH THIS CAREFULLY.

AH, BUT, WHAT'LL WE DO ABOUT SOL?

EMERGENCY BUSINESS TRIP

WOW, THAT'S CRUEL.

BY THE WAY, WHO IS THIS OTHER KID WITH THEM?

COME TO THINK OF IT, THIS KID WAS PRETTY WEIRD, TOO...

WHEN I FIRST MET HIM, I GOT THIS PSYCHOMET-RIC READING FROM HIM..

OH, THAT'S REN, ONE OF LALE'S FRIENDS FROM JAPAN.

TAP
TAP
TAP
FWIP
?
REMEMBER THAT BIG UPROAR ABOUT THE TELE-PATH LAST YEAR?
THAT KID WHO DROP KICKED MIKURO?
Oh yeah, that was fun
THAT KID... IT'S REN!!
...RAY,
MIKURO KNOWS HIM TOO, SO THERE'S NO MIS-TAKING IT! TAKE A LOOK!!
...IT LOOKS LIKE SOME-THING BIG COMPLETELY SLIPPED MY MIND.
I HADN'T SEEN ANYTHING THAT FUNNY BEFORE SO I TOOK A PICTURE-LOOK!!

YOU'VE GOT A CLIP OF THAT TIME, DON'T YOU?!

I'LL MAKE YOU A BET, IT'S DEFINITELY REN!!

JUST COMPARE THEM ALREADY!!

THAT CAN'T BE, MINE.

EVEN IF WE SUPPOSE HE DID HAVE EXTRAORDINARY PSYCHIC POWERS LIKE THAT,

-SEE? COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

Disagree

IT'S A DIFFERENT PERSON. MOTHER EVEN SAYS IT'S NOT HIM.*

MY, MY.

TAP

TAP

TAP

YOU'RE QUITE STUBBORN.

*T/N. Mother is the name of their computer system.

YOU CAN'T EVEN BELIEVE WHAT YOUR SUBORDINATE SAYS?! WHAT DOES THIS PICTURE EXPLAIN ANYWAY?

YOU'RE DEFINITELY JUST PICKING ON ME!!

DIDN'T IT RECORD THE FACE WRONG?!

SIRENS WOULD HAVE GONE OFF WHEN HE CAME IN.

KACHIKO'S ALREADY IN OUR RECORDS, SO SIRENS WOULDN'T HAVE GONE OFF ON HER.

SO THAT'S HOW THEY GO THROUGH... AM I RIGHT?

I'VE BEEN CALLED A PRODIGY ENGINEER,

AND I SET UP MOST OF THE SYSTEM WITHIN THIS OFFICE.

IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T BELIEVE YOU, BUT YOU'RE CLAIMING THAT THE OFFICE HAS BEEN HACKED.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THIS?

SOMEONE WHO SINGS HIS OWN PRAISES.

COUNTER ARGUMENT

COULDN'T SOMEBODY WHO'S A BETTER ENGINEER THAN YOU DO IT?

THAT'S A SIMPLE ANSWER, ISN'T IT?!

PROFESSOR VISION, HELLO!!

HUMPH!

BY THE WAY, HAVE YOU GOTTEN ANYTHING FOR TODAY?

There's no way there would be, Professor Vision!

OF COURSE.

Um. . the computer did make one mistake...

CYBER SECURITY DIVISION, THERE'S NEVER BEEN A RECORD OF HACKING DAMAGES IN THE PAST, ...CORRECT?

SHHH!

RAY!

THE COMPUTER... SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH MOTHER!

A MISTAKE?

WOAH!

Whoop

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

CLACK

I TOLD THE CAMERAS TO TRACK THE KIDS, BUT IT'S LOST SIGHT OF THEM!!

Professor?

Whoop

Whoop

Whoop

WOW LOOKS LIKE MOTHER'S MADE A FULL TURN AROUND. THIS IS GONNA COST YOU, DADDY!

Pops
Pops
Pops
Pops
Pops
Pops
Pops
Slowip
DOES THAT MEAN THAT EVEN RAY...
.. RAY, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
..DON'T TELL ME
...MOTHER'S NOT LISTENING TO YOUR COM-MANDS?
ISN'T ABLE TO CONTROL MOTHER...?!
CYBER SECURITY DIVISION, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

SCREEEE

WE'RE GETTING HACKED!!

THAT'S WEIRD.

TO HAVE LOOKED THIS MUCH AND NOT FOUND HER,

MINE *DID* SAY SHE WAS HERE...

CLUNK

PAMELA-SAN'S NOT HERE AFTER ALL...

LOOKS LIKE THE SUN'S ABOUT TO SET SOON.

+M?

STARTING TO BECOME SELF-RELIANT ...?

Whoop

Whoop

I'LL GO HOME THEN.

EVEN MY BARRIER HAS ITS LIMITS.

THAT WAS PRETTY INTENSE AFTER ALL...

It's hot

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN... I CAN JUST LEAVE THIS TO YOU, THEN?

I SEE ..

Hmph

LET ME BE A GUEST FOR ABOUT FIVE DAYS.

Huff

HEH HEH HEH, KEEP TRYING, MR. OWNER.

SORRY, BUT I PUT IN SOME NEW SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE.

Through a virus.

Whoop Whoop Whoop

NO GOOD.

NO GOOD.

Whoop Whoop Whoop

YES, ONLY ONE.

Huff

THROUGH A SYSTEM PROGRAM I BUILT.

WHO HAS EVER BROKEN

THERE HAS ONLY BEEN ONE PERSON

ONLY MOKUREN.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! ISN'T THERE AN INVADER IN MOTHER'S HOUSE?

HURRY AND CONFIRM THIS!!

RIGHT NOW!!

I'M TELLING YOU TO GET IN THERE!!

I CAN'T THINK OF ANYWHERE ELSE IT'D BE!!

IT MIGHT NOT DO ANY GOOD TO SAY THIS,

THERE ISN'T, PROFESSOR. IT'S A SPECIAL NO-ENTRY-PERMITTED AREA.

BUT PLEASE CALM DOWN, PROFESSOR.

EVEN

IF SOMEONE WAS ABLE TO ENTER, IT WOULD REQUIRE THREE HOURS TO GET IN. THAT, AND AS YOU CAN SEE ON THE MONITOR, WE CANNOT SEE ANYONE INSIDE.

NO ONE IS SIMPLY ABLE TO ENTER THE HOUSE. 90% OF THE OXYGEN HAS BEEN REMOVED, RIGHT?

THE AIR PRESSURE HAS ALSO BEEN INCREASED

IT'S AN AREA CUT OFF FROM STRONG ESP WAVES,

SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE WITHIN THE OFFICE TO ENTER.

WHETHER IT IS AN ESPER OR A NORMAL, NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO STAY INSIDE FOR MORE THAN THREE MINUTES.

THE ONE WHO MADE IT THIS WAY WAS YOU, PROFESSOR.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THIS?

IN ANY CASE, WE'VE GOTTEN NO SIGNAL OF ANY LIVING BODIES.

IS THAT MOTHER IS JUST FOOLING AROUND WITH US?

IT'S OBVIOUS THIS ISN'T AN OUTSIDE ATTACK.

—SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING

ACCORDING TO MY PRIVATE PC IT'S AN INSIDE ATTACK.

FURTHERMORE, IT'S MOST LIKELY COMING FROM THE HOUSE!

THEN ISN'T IT FOOLING US?!

MOTHER IS DOING THIS TO YOU!

FLINCH

UH... WE'VE RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM MOTHER.

UH... YES SIR.

"INSTRUCTIONS FOR MR. OWNER:

MOTHER IS CURRENTLY IN A DREAM

READ IT TO ME.

Push

THANK YOU FOR MORE FUN THAN I'VE HAD IN YEARS." ...WH, WHOA!

YOU COULD THINK OF IT AS CINDERELLA LIBERTY*

LET HER BE UNTIL SHE AWAKES FROM THE DREAM.

IT IS ALL RIGHT. AT THAT TIME SHE WILL RETURN TO NORMAL, SO DO NOT WORRY.

*T/N. Cinderella Liberty - reference to the 1973 movie, or Suzuki Kiyowi's 1987 debut single.

Tap

Tap

Tap

> Who the hell are you?

MAYBE RIGHT NOW I'M

HUH?

> "S"

HEHE HEH.

>I give Mother... 70 points.

MAYBE I'M JUST HIGH

TAP

TAP

TAP

PAMELA-SAN'S NOT REALLY HERE, HUH...

YEAH

Beep

...UH, MINE? IS PAMELA REALLY HERE?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M NOT GOING HOME!

...I STILL WANNA LOOK AROUND HERE SOME MORE.

IT'S OKAY IF YOU GUYS

GO HOME NOW.

The pre-existing data all got changed.

This isn't the time for that, Late!

The Mother Computer has gone through some total change!

Things are crazy over here. Later!

CLICK

AH— MINE!

...GEEZ.

OH.

HEY!

EVEN IN JAPAN THEY WON'T TELL YOU PRIVATE INFORMATION LIKE THAT, REN!

HOW ABOUT WE ASK THE RECEPTIONIST IF SHE'S GOT PAMELA'S ADDRESS?!

Dad,

SOS.

...I won't say

Hmph!

something like that right now.

!

THAT GUY!!

THAT MAN WITH THE LADY!!

AH...

...AH! KACHIKO-CHAN!

HE'S CHANGED HIS HAIRSTYLE,

BUT ISN'T THAT THE GUY MARRIED TO PAMELA-SAN?!

NO WAY!

THAT GUY IS FAMOUS FOR BEING THE BIGGEST WOMANIZER IN THE WHOLE OFFICE!

HUH?

...IZER?

AH! RE...

WHAT?!

PAMELA AND SOL ARE MARRIED?!

That was a shock

KACHIKOOO! WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

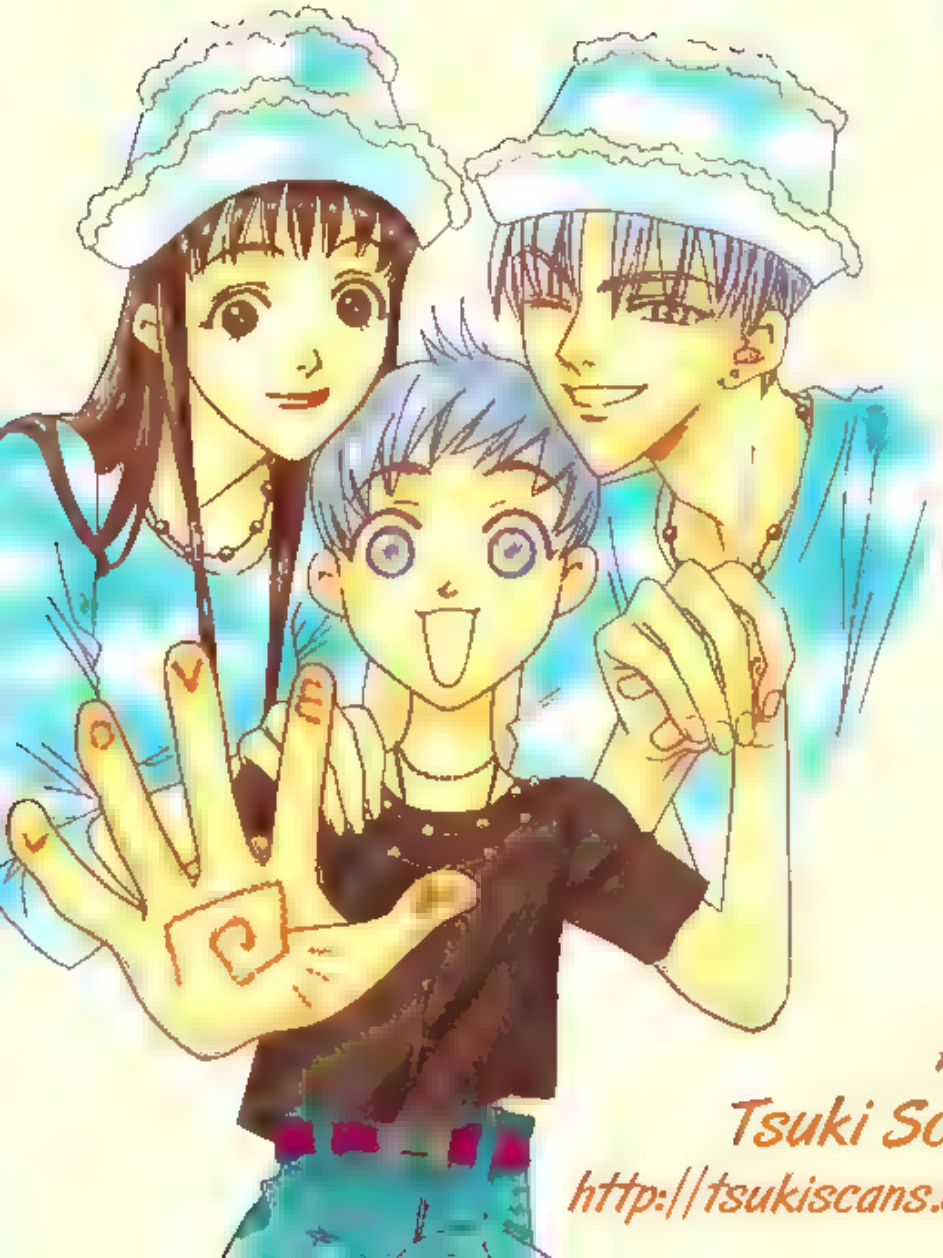
I'm Japanese after all.

HAVE YOU DECIDED TO STAY HERE AFTER ALL?!

AHHA! I'M SO GLAD!!

CAMP DETRAU

Ert...



Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari V09 ch44

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Special thanks to Kathie Soto!

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One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever

What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?

Shokuji Proofreader

Raijin Translator

Katana Admin

Huh?

FROZEN

Boss? Did you hear me?

WOBBLE

Oh, crap!

Katana-sama! Are you OK?

BONK!

Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did Shoujo manga cease to exist?

Oh, no! It was something much more sinister

STAFF SHORT-AGES!

SNAP!

HUGE PILES OF TRANSLATED CHAPTERS...

SPREAD THE NEWS, WE NEED NEW EDITORS AND QC-ERS STAT!

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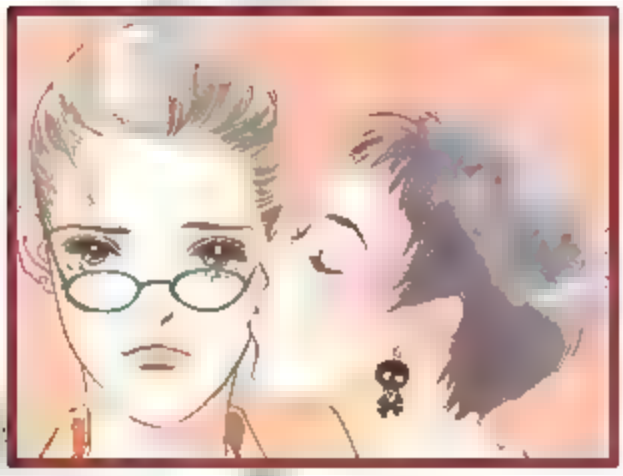

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chapter 45

kachiko's circumstances #7

WELCOME TO THE EPIA!

A WARM WELCOME TO YOU, KACHIKO!!

Jenali

CAMP DENALI

...ER-

13

Kick

BWUH?

THROWN OFF.

WHADYA MEAN WARM WELCOME, DUMBASS!!

YA MESSIN' WITH ME OR WHAT!!

OBVIOUSLY BEIN' A CHEATER RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!!

AH. .

NO, THAT WAS JUST...

. YEAH, JUST NOW, SEE,

THAT WAS JUST A NORMAL GREETING!

JUST A SIMPLE GREETING!

DONTCHA CARE ANYTHING ABOUT MOMMY?!!

LALE, IN AMERICA.

D' THEY JUST MAKE OUT WITH WHOEVER?

HUH?

AH... ERM. NO... NOT NECESSARILY... WITH WHOEVER...

BUT ANYWAY!

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering 3:

I'd like to make a confession about my internet usage

Actually, I lurk among the masses of the internet, especially right before I make the initial sketches for each chapter I like to see a lot of readers' responses and reviews and carefully consider them. As much as possible I prefer getting your responses through the Bessatsu magazines, but rather than asking for that luxury, I do searches for "Boku-Tsuki" and the characters' names and such

Of course, there are some harsh reviews I give those a lot of consideration when I see very fond reviews, I want to just sit at my computer and cry Really! (Laughs)

Those of you who write blogs probably didn't know I secretly had been reading them. The internet sure is mysterious-it feels like you can reach out and have relationships with people beyond your fingertips

HE DID GO TO JAPAN TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH KACHIKO-CHAN AFTER ALL.
AMAZING!!
"That's just like him!
SOL... SOL-SAN, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU SPOKE JAPANESE!
THAT WAS A SHOCK!

YOU'RE REALLY MARRIED TO PAMELA-SAN?!
HUUH, WHAT?!
THEN FOR REAL-
SHH.
WE'RE IN FRONT OF A BUNCH OF PEOPLE HERE.
WHY DON'T WE GO SOME-WHERE ELSE?

YOU WANT TO KNOW .. WHO YOUR BIOLOGICAL MOTHER IS...?

WHAT...?!

NODS

AND THAT'S WHY YOU CAME...?

PAME-A-MOMMY.

REALLY WANTED T' MEET

THERE WAS THAT, AND... I REALLY...

...AHH... SO *THAT'S* WHY YOU CAME.

...OH...

THIS GUY IS WEIRD SO YOU CAN'T BE PREPARED FOR HIM.

...

HMMM...

EVEN .. EVEN IF YOU SAY YOU'LL WAIT...

... WELL ...

LATER...

Grabs

STOP!

WAIT!

MEETING HER WOULD BE GREAT!

ANYWAY, HOW ABOUT YOU ALL EAT!

YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL ENJOY YOURSELF, AFTER ALL!

EH~~ WHY?

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WANTED THEM TO MEET SO MUCH THAT YOU CAME TO JAPAN!!

SO YOU CAN TAKE US TO MEET HER, CAN'T YOU?!

KACHIKO-CHAN CAME TO MEET PAMELA-SAN!

YOU HEARD US, DIDN'T YOU?!

WE...

UM... DON'T LIVE TOGETHER, SEE.

WE'LL JUST WAIT FOR HER T' COME HOME!!

WHAT THE...? CANTCHA JUST TAKE US TO YOUR PLACE, THEN?

WELL, THAT'S TRUE!

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHERE SHE IS RIGHT NOW.

AND I REALLY WANT THEM TO MEET, BUT...

—RIGHT?!

HUH?

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'RE MARRIED. WHAT WOULD HAVE MADE THEM DECIDE TO DO THAT?

Not good

COMING OUT

カミングアウト

THAT, AND SOL-SAN IS A SMART WOMANIZER.

HE WOULDN'T EVEN WANT TO GET MARRIED!

WHAT'S MORE, EVEN IF THAT WERE TRUE, PAMELA WOULDN'T HAVE ANY REASON NOT TO SAY SO!

EVEN . EVEN THOUGH SHE KNOWS HOW MUCH I...

HOW MUCH I LOOK UP TO SOL-SAN, THERE'S NO REASON SHE'D JUST STAY QUIET ABOUT IT!

What the?

...WHAT EXACTLY .. IS A SMART WOMANIZER?

IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A DIRTY COMMUNITY!

ALL THE WOMEN AFTER HIM ARE LOVERS, AS WELL AS FRIENDS AND RIVALS.

WHAT THE HELL?! WHAT'S THE POINT OF HIDING THAT YOU'RE MARRIED!!

I SAID THEY'RE NOT MARRIED!

HE'S WEIRD!

DID THEY DIVORCE?

EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE MARRIED THEY DON'T LIVE TOGETHER.

LALE, YOU LOOK UP TO THIS KIND OF WEIRD PERSON?!

SOL-SAN'S NOT A WEIRD PERSON!!

MIKURO-SAN!

WELL, WHICH THE HELL IS IT THEN?!!

EH?

EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE LAST BOMB REMOVAL PROCEDURE?

WE'VE JUST RECEIVED AN ORDER FOR YOU TO GO BACK TO THE OFFICE.

JIM AND I WILL TAKE OVER HERE.

DART

NO, TOTALLY OPPOSITE LOOKS LIKE IT COULD CAUSE SOME PRETTY HEFTY LOSSES.

~~~LIKE A BUNDLE OF MONEY FALL-ING ON IT?

JUST HEAD RIGHT BACK

IT'S AN ORDER FROM THE COMMAND CENTER SEEMS SOMETHING PRETTY BIG IS GOING ON WITHIN THE BUREAU.

DART

MOTHER WAS ATTACKED, AND MOST OF THE PREEXISTING DATA HAS BEEN CHANGED, THEY SAY... MAYBE IT'S A CYBER-TERRORIST?

#7 chatter #7 chatter #7

LOSSES?

YEAH.

WELCOME BACK, MIKURO.
~~~

YOU'VE PROBABLY ALREADY HEARD, BUT...

RIGHT NOW, THE BUREAU IS IN A DIFFICULT POSITION.

WHAT'S REALLY OBVIOUS IS THE ESP SECTION.

RECENT PHOTOS AND PERSONAL DATA HAVE MOSTLY BEEN LOST, JUST LOOKING AT IT IS MISERABLE.

SOME KIND OF PERSON MAY HAVE ENTERED THE HOUSE WITHOUT PERMISSION AND ATTACKED MOTHER...

THE PRE-EXISTING DATA, ESPECIALLY THE ONE ABOUT PEOPLE ON RECORD HERE, HAVE ALL BEEN CHANGED OR HAVE DISAPPEARED.

IT LOOKS LIKE THE LIVE DIVISION'S LITTLE MOTHER IS SOMEHOW TRYING TO REPAIR THE DATA.

EVEN NOW, MOTHER IS OBEYING THE SYSTEM THE CULPRIT CONSTRUCTED.

IT'S LIKE IT'S GONE CRAZY ON SOME ASTRONOMICAL COMPUTATIONS AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL.

FOR THE TIME BEING, IF WE ARE ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS PERSON'S PRESENCE, THE ESP SECTION MIGHT GIVE IT A NEVER BEFORE USED TOP LEVEL RANK.

FOR NOW, WE'RE ASSUMING THAT RANK IS "DOUBLE S".

AS YOU KNOW, ENTERING THE MOTHER HOUSE

IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR NORMAL PEOPLE, ...AND EVEN FOR YOU.

DRAG HIM OUT OF THERE.

RIGHT NOW WE HAVE AN ASSIGN-MENT FOR YOU, A TOP LEVEL "S" RANK.

THIS MEANS THAT WE'RE HIDING THE FACT THAT THIS MAY BE THE ARRIVAL OF A COMPLETELY NEW KIND OF ESPER THAT WE'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

—Rin... kun...

THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE ORDER— IS THAT CLEAR?

JEFF—!

HELP ME~~

—It couldn't be.

ME? WHO?

YAKUSHIMARU KACHIKO. .

SOL!

IT'S STRANGE TO SEE YOU WITH CHILDREN.

THEY'RE NOT WOMEN

THE KIDS BLAMED ME FOR STUFF AND MADE ME TAKE THEM TO MEET YOU--

KA... CHIKO?

THAT KACHIKO...?!

...MIKURO'S DAUGHTER..

LIFTS!

YOU'VE GOTTEN SO BIG! YOU'RE REALLY THAT LITTLE BABY?!

WELL, I GUESS I'VE GOTTEN OLDER TOO!

WAHAHAHA!

YOU'VE GOT CUTE EYES, JUST LIKE PAMELA!

LET ME GET A GOOD LOOK AT YOU!

OKAY?

-AND?

JUST WHAT WERE YOU BLAMED FOR?

WELL..

THESE TWO SAID HE'S MARRIED TO PAMELA, BUT THAT'S NOT TRUE, RIGHT?

That's good, Kachiko-chan is smiling!

WHAAAT~~?!

THEN IT'S TRUE?!

HUH ? YOU TALKED TO KACHIKO ABOUT THAT?

WEREN'T YOU NOT GOING TO TELL HER?

YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN MARRIED EIGHT YEARS NOW, HAVEN'T YOU, SO!?

Heheh

WHAAAT?! I DON'T BELIEVE IT! WHAT A SHOCK!!

WHY DID YOU HIDE IT ALL THIS TIME?! THAT WAS MEAN OF PAMELA, TOO! NOT TELLING ANYONE LIKE THAT...

I'm only getting bits of pieces of the English, though...

MORE IMPORTANTLY, KACHIKO,

DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANTED TO ASK JEFF?

IGNORING THEM.

GO AHEAD AND ASK, AND I'LL TRANSLATE.

HE'S BUSY TOO, SO BEST TO DO IT NOW.

OH YEAH .. IS NOW A GOOD TIME?

WELL~TURNS OUT I'M LUCKY TO HAVE A LITTLE FREE TIME RIGHT NOW.

FOR SOME REASON MOTHER'S DOWN, SO NOBODY IS ABLE TO USE ANY MACHINES.

What!? Mother's down!?

You didn't know?!

WELL, 'KAY, I WON'T HOLD BACK.

FIRST... HOW'S MOMMY?

YOU'RE HER DOCTOR, RIGHT?

ANY PROBLEMS WITH HER HEALTH OR ANYTHING?

ANY PROBLEMS WITH PAMELA'S HEALTH-?

You shouldn't have to ask this

TOTALLY FINE.

OH, THAT'S GOOD!

THE DOCTOR SAYS SHE'S FINE.

AREN'T THERE THINGS YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE?

YOU HAVEN'T ASKED YET!

YEAH.

YER RIGHT

WHEN I WAS BORN,

WAS MOMMY HAPPY, OR...

?!

OF COURSE SHE WAS!!

EVEN I WAS DESPERATELY HOPING FOR THE BEST FOR YOU!!

THERE'S NO WAY SHE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN HAPPY!

ER.

?

OF COURSE SHE WAS!

SO HAPPY SHE COULD DIE!

WHEN KACHIKO WAS BORN, WAS PAMELA HAPPY, JEFF?

ENGLISH

SORRY, SORRY, I'LL ASK NOW.

JAPANESE

IT WAS SPRING, HUH..

THERE WAS LIGHT RAIN THAT MORNING,

AND THEN WE HEARD YOUR HEALTHY CRY THAT YOU WERE HERE.

MIKURO TELEPORTED IN FROM A JOB SO HE COULD SEE YOUR FACE FOR THE FIRST TIME.

HE STARED AT YOU FOREVER LIKE YOU WERE SO MYSTERIOUS.

IN JAPAN, THE SOUND OF TIME TICKING IS EXPRESSED AS "KA-CHIKOCHI", ISN'T IT?

IT'S WASN'T A DIFFICULT LABOR, AND BOTH MOTHER AND CHILD DID WELL.

PAMELA WAS MAKING A "GUTS POSE" AND ALL.

IT WAS BECAUSE MIKURO SAID THAT SINCE HE COULD STARE AT YOU FOREVER, ALL HE COULD HEAR WAS A CLOCK TICKING... THAT,

AND SHE HEARD MIKURO'S FROM A FAMILY OF CLOCK MAKERS,

SO PAMELA REALLY LIKED THAT EXPRESSION.

I STILL CLEARLY REMEMBER NOW HOW, BECAUSE THEY BOTH WANTED YOU TO LIVE WELL EVERY DAY, THEY DECIDED HOW TO NAME YOU.

NEXT QUESTION, DR. JEFF.

DO YOU KNOW WHO MY BIOLOGICAL MOTHER IS?

Honk

AW MAN, MY NOSE IS RUNNIN'.

WERE YOU THE ONE WHO SAID TO HIDE HER AWAY IN JAPAN?

OH~~ THAT'S RIGHT. YEAH, I DID YOU WEREN'T VERY HAPPY ABOUT THAT, HUH, SOL.

WERE YOU THE ONE WHO TOLD MY DADDY T' HIDE ME AWAY IN JAPAN?

NOPE

UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T KNOW THAT.

TELL 'IM I WAS REALLY HAPPY T' MEET 'IM.

TELL 'IM "THANKS A BUNCH" FOR ME.

LAST QUESTION, JEFF

OK, GOT IT.

SAYIN' I WAS SUPER HAPPY TO MEET 'IM WOULD BE GOOD.

FROM YOUR STANDPOINT,

DO YOU THINK PAMELA LOVES MIKURO?

JUST SPEAK HONESTLY, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.

...UH...

W- WELL, YOU WANT ME TO SAY THIS IN FRONT OF YOU?

?!

WE~~~ LL...

...HMM... YEAH... I GUESS IT'S HARD TO SAY FOR SURE.

IN MY OPINION...

YES...

SHE'S IN LOVE WITH HIM, PERHAPS...

YEAH, WE'VE GOTTA HURRY UP 'N GET HOME!

IT'S SURE GOTTEN LATE, HUH~~

WHOA, IT'S PITCH BLACK OUTSIDE!

POOR MOMMY, WHY'S SHE MARRIED T' THAT GUY?!

TOTALLY!

EVEN SO, WHAT'S WITH THAT SOL GUY ANYWAY.

IT'D BE GREAT IF THEY SPLIT UP AND SHE GETS REMARRIED T' DADDY!!

WE DIDN'T GET TO MEET PAMELA-SAN.

BUT IT'S GOOD WE GOT TO MEET DR. JEFF!

...HEY...

-UM

HE SAID HE'D GET IN CONTACT WITH PAMELA-SAN FOR US,

SO MAYBE WE'LL GET TO MEET HER TOMORROW?!

..UM...

RIGHT AT THE END, SOL-SAN AND JEFF

YA THINK?

THEN I'LL SEE YOU TO-MORROW!

YEAH, WE'RE FINE, BUT...

UM, I'VE GOT TO GO HOME TO THE BUREAU.

ARE YOU BOTH ABLE TO GET BACK FROM HERE?

I'M NOT LISTENIN', LET'S GO HOME.

JUST SOMETHIN' STUPID ABOUT SOL.

Wishin' the best for me, what the hell

DO YOU THINK LALE WANTED TO TELL US SOMETHING?

I've got to try doing psychometry

of Mikuro-ojisan's things...!!

on every last one

WHEN WE GO HOME TO-NIGHT, I'VE GOT A JOB, TOO.

THAT'S RIGHT,

—AH.

SOL-SAN...!

YOU'RE NAME'S LALE, RIGHT? JUST CALL ME SOL.

YOU'RE .. FRIENDS WITH PAMELA, AREN'T YOU... AND MIKURO, FOR SURE.

AH... YES. HE'S BECOME MY GUARDIAN...

UM... IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH USING JAPANESE...

OHH WHAT?

I'VE GOT SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU...

WHY... FOR EIGHT YEARS .

DID YOU AND PAMELA HIDE FROM EVERYONE THAT YOU WERE MARRIED...?

A DAY WHEN KACHIKO WOULD WANT PAMELA FOR MIKURO'S SAKE.

A DAY LIKE THIS...?

THAT'S...

THAT'S BECAUSE I KNEW A DAY LIKE THIS WOULD COME... I GUESS.

I TRIED TO SNATCH HER AWAY FROM MIKURO,

BUT THAT FAILED.

WELL,

I KNEW I COULDN'T WIN OVER HER REAL FATHER.

IT'D BE TERRIBLE IF A RUMOR WENT AROUND HERE

THAT MIKURO STOLE A GIRL FROM ME WHILE I WAS ASLEEP, WOULDN'T IT?

THAT'S WHY I HAD TO LEAVE THINGS OPEN FOR US TO HAVE A SIMPLE PARTING.

IT WAS LIKE THAT FROM THE START.

YOU AND PAMELA ARE GOING TO SPLIT UP?

PROBABLY.

EHHH?! NO WAY...!

AT THAT TIME, WOULD YOU FEEL SAFE WITH ME TAKING OVER AS YOUR GUARDIAN?

IF THAT'S THE CASE, MIKURO MIGHT TAKE HER HOME TO JAPAN.

BUT IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHY DID YOU MARRY PAMELA?

IF YOU ALREADY KNEW YOU'D BREAK UP...

Sorry if I'm right

I'VE GOT A 70% CHANCE.

I'VE GOT FORE-SIGHT ABILI-TIES, YOU KNOW.

How rude.

WHEN I'M NEXT TO HER

I CAN FALL FAST ASLEEP.

I ALTER-NATELY DATE GIRLS BE-CAUSE I'M LOOK'NG FOR SLEEPING PARTNERS,

BUT IT WAS FOR THAT REASON THAT I WAS WITH PAMELA.

OH... I'M AN INSOMNIAC.

...BUT THERE REALLY ISN'T ONE...

BUT ANYWAY, ALL THESE EIGHT YEARS, I'VE LOOKED FOR OTHER GIRLS TO SLEEP WELL WITH

WITHIN TEN DAYS, I HAD TO SWITCH TO A SPECIAL BED AND SLEEPING PILLS.

...YOU SAID

HAVING FORESIGHT ABILITIES IS REALLY A PAIN, YOU KNOW?

SEEMS THAT WHATEVER YOU WANT TO KNOW MOST

THAT YOU WISHED THE BEST FOR KACHIKO...

...THE BABY PAMELA GAVE BIRTH TO...?

DID YOU LIKE HER ONLY BECAUSE SHE WAS

IS ALWAYS SUPPOSED TO BE SOMETHING YOU DON'T KNOW...

OF COURSE SHE WAS MAD.

IT NEVER REALLY DID GO WELL~~ I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO GO WITHOUT THE GIRLS ANYWAY...

THEN WHY?

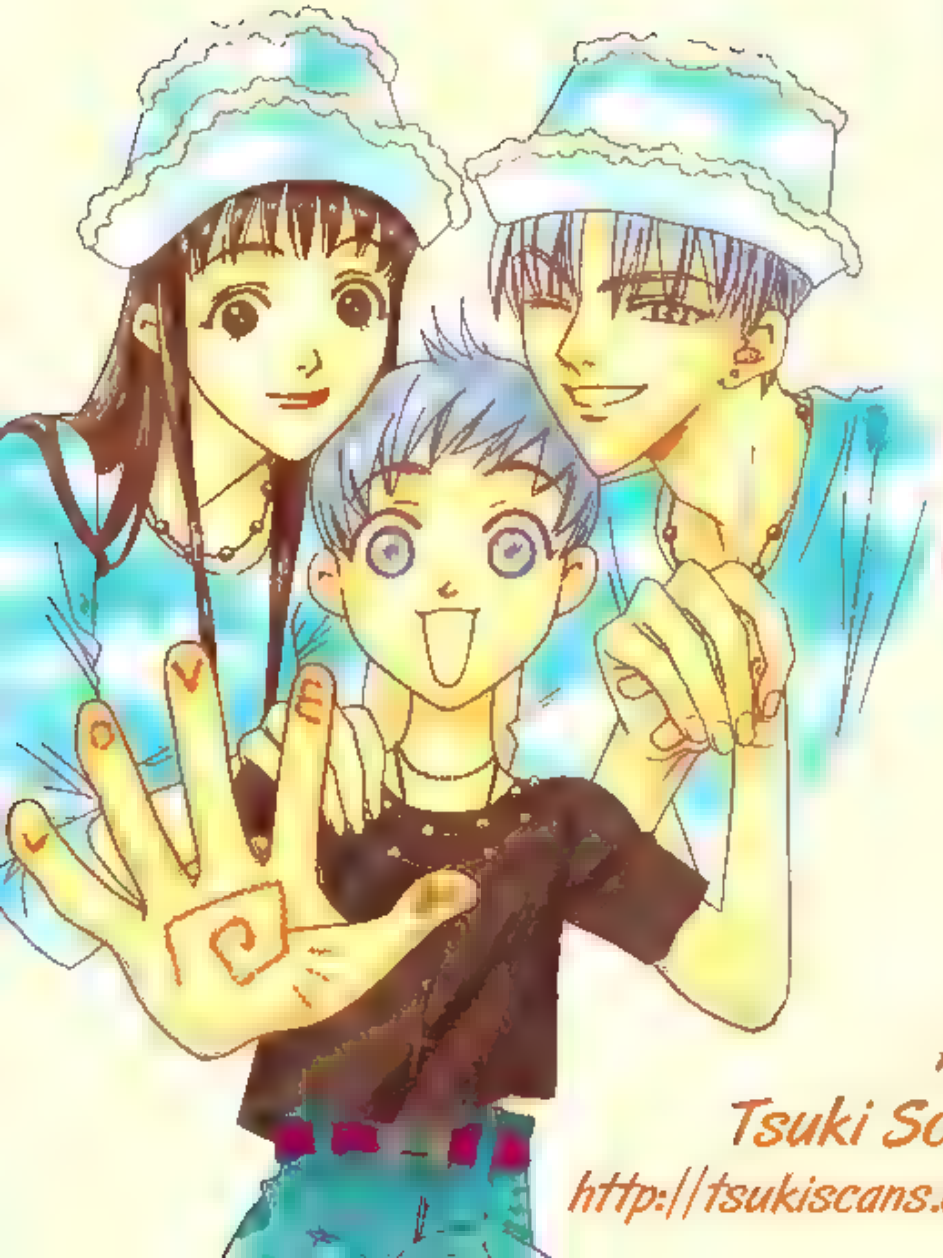
OF COURSE THERE'S THAT.

THAT'S... NOT SOMETHING I CAN SAY.

BUT EVEN TO ME,

KACHIKO IS LIKE FAMILY.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON.



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One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever

What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?

Shokuji Proofreader

Raijin Translator

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Huh?

FROZEN

Boss? Did you hear me?

WOBBLE

Oh, crap!

Katana-sama! Are you OK?

BONK!

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Oh, no! It was something much more sinister

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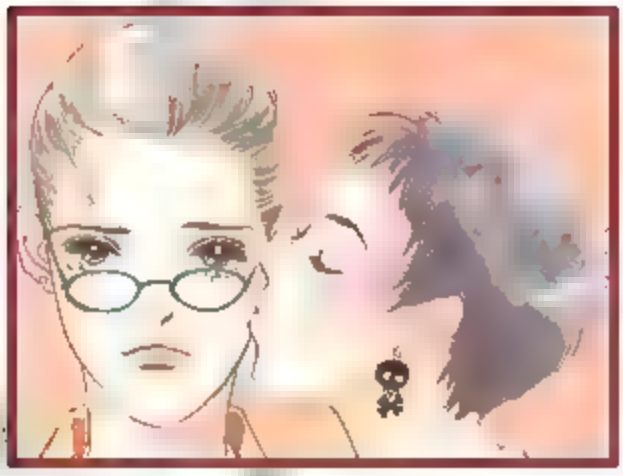

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chapter. 46

Kachiko's Circumstances #8

ガラ…

Grrk

MIKURO-OJISAN DOESN'T HAVE A LOT OF STUFF.

I WONDER IF THIS WILL WORK...

HHHHH MMMM...

Staaaares

IT'S REALLY NOT A MATTER OF THE NUMBER OF THINGS.

...NO.

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering 4:

Speaking of the internet, lately everyone's been obsessed with some online pop-stars called Vocaloids, and making their own original music with characters like Hatsune Miku

In case you haven't heard of them, I'll introduce them a bit You can see them on "Niko Niko Douga" or "YouTube" or other sites like that Amateur musicians make videos of these made-up pop stars singing their original music, and then publish them on the web There are a lot of things that people themselves wanted to try singing or that human voices just aren't capable of That's what makes them really, really interesting Do listen to them sometimennnn

I've always liked music, but I never thought I'd live in a time where people can produce their own music so easily! I'm very surprised It's almost like living in a manga

DADDY MIGHT BE COMIN' HOME EVEN LATER.

ARENTCHA HUNGRY, ...REN?

If only we had eaten the food Sai treated us to!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, KACHIKO-CHAN?

THIS IS GREAT!

-AH! I'M FINE.

I'LL MAKE THAT FOR KACHIKO-CHAN TO EAT!!

AH, OJISAN? I CAN FRY SOME EGGS.

I'M STAR-VING!

WHAAAT?

Hmph

ALL RIGHT?

I'M GOING TO DO SOME PSYCHOMETRY ON MIKURO-OJISAN'S THINGS.

KACHIKO-CHAN.

YUP, IT'S FINE. WORK HARD, OKAY?

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU!!

...EH...

I UNDER-
STAND.

I

KNOW HOW MUCH YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE.

IT WORKS OUT REALLY WELL THAT MIKURO-OJISAN'S NOT HERE,

AND I'LL GET BY JUST WITH BREAD OR SOMETHING.

...AS YOU KNOW, EVERYTHING WITH DAD'S CAP EXPLO-DED INTO A REAL MESS.

SO IF YOU TELL ME NOT TO DO THIS,

KACHIKO-CHAN, WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

I WON'T.
BUT...

IT WOULD BE IDEAL IF WE COULD GET SOME CLUES ABOUT YOUR REAL MOM,

SINCE IT'D BE GREAT TO FIND THAT OUT, BUT...

...AH... AH... AH!! IF THAT'S THE CASE,

THEN JUST WAIT A SEC!!

YOU MEAN... I MIGHT BE ABLE

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE TRUTH BETWEEN DADDY AND MOMMY?!

JINGLE

THIS.

THIS IS MY TREASURE.

I GOT IT FROM MOMMY.

IT USED TO BELONG TO HER!

READ THIS FIRST!!

I SHOULD SAY THIS FIRST, TOO.

YEAH... BUT KACHIKO-CHAN,

WHAAT!

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD SOMETHING LIKE THAT, KACHIKO-CHAN!

WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO THIS?

IS THAT STILL OKAY...

WITH YOU?

MOMMY HAD DADDY GIVE IT TO ME.

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING T' HAPPEN TO IT SO I KEPT IT PUT AWAY.

I DON'T CARE.

READ IT.

urk—

—Rl...

YOU'D BETTER LAY DOWN!

...N'T...

YOU'RE A WRECK!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!

Swack

I DON'T NEED TO SAY THIS...

...DON'T TOUCH ME,

YAKUSHIMARU MIKURO!!

...BUT I HATE

YOU.

YOU'RE SO IRRITATING

—Ah... I see him...!!

NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE MIGHT SAY THIS IS FOR KACHIKO'S SAKE...

WHAT'S REALLY SAD

IS THAT RIN PUT HIS BODY AT RISK

TO COVER FOR A GUY LIKE YOU!

Shi—

I CAN PUT ON A FACE LIKE A BUDDHA IN FRONT OF THE KIDS,

BUT NOT IN FRONT OF YOU.

I CAN'T LET RIN BE PUT IN SUCH A DANGEROUS SITUATION.

DON'T YOU THINK HE WANTED TO JUST PUT AN END TO IT?

...ERM..

YOU'RE NOT RIN-KUN, BUT SHION.. SAN... AM I RIGHT?

Probably.

Ohh, you're messing with me?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT

IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME.

I'M SORRY

YOU'VE GOT SOME GUTS, DON'T YOU.

...FORGIVE ME.

BUT I'VE COME HERE FOR INFORMATION.

RIN-KUN DID SOMETHING AT THE EPIA, DID HE NOT...?!

AND NOW I'VE BEEN TOLD TO BRING IN THE CULPRIT,

PLEASE CONSIDER THAT!

WASN'T RIN-KUN THE ONE AT FAULT

FOR CAUSING AN UPROAR WITHOUT CONSULTING ME FIRST?!

CATCHES

..THE ONE AT FAULT?

?

THERE ARE SOME SUPPLE-MENT CAPSULES IN THERE.

HMPH I'M WITH YOU THERE.

THEY'RE NOT FINISHED.

DON'T OPEN IT YET.

TWIST-TWIST

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO GET THEM OUT OF YOUR BODY WITHOUT A

SUPPOSEDLY ONCE YOU SWALLOW THOSE CAPSULES,

THEY'LL STAY INSIDE YOUR STOMACH

SPECIAL LAXATIVE Coughs

FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

SWALLOW THEM...?

TO MAKE IT SEEM LIKE YOU'VE RUN OUT OF ESP.

M kuro

You're not able to quit the ESLAZ

So you

YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'VE JUST REMEMBERED.

TO GIVE YOU

AND KACHIKO HAPPINESS

AND THAT GOT RIN THINKING OF WAYS

.YES

AND THOUGHT OF TRYING TO USE HIS ESP WAVES TO PUT YOUR ABILITIES INTO STEALTH MODE.

THE QUALITIES OF YOUR ESP AND RIN'S ESP ARE DIFFERENT.

"TO USE UP YOUR ABILITIES

TO THE POINT OF HAVING NO MARROW LEFT IN YOUR BONES."

HE STARTED DEVELOPING IT

THAT VERY NIGHT AND WORKED STRAIGHT THROUGH TO MAKE THIS.

HE THOUGHT BACK ON HOW, WHEN YOUR ABILITIES COLLIDED WITH HIS IN FRONT OF LALE, YOU WERE BOTH ABLE TO COUNTERBALANCE EACH OTHER,

IF IT WERE THE CASE THAT YOUR ABILITIES DRIED UP AND HAD NO USEFUL VALUE,

IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO RETIRE.

AND THEN TODAY, THOUGH HE KNEW IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS,

HE NEVERTHELESS ENTERED THE MOTHER COMPUTER.

OF COURSE, PART OF THAT REASON WAS TO ERASE TRACES OF REN AND OF THE KIDS' ACTIVITY TODAY.

...HOWEVER,

HIS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WAS BECAUSE HE KNEW HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO USE A FULLY RECOVERED MOTHER IN THE EVENT THAT YOU PERSONALLY REPORT THAT YOUR ABILITIES HAVE DRIED UP.

IN ORDER TO MAKE SURE THERE'S NO INDICATION OF ANYTHING INSIDE YOU,

THEREFORE,

AT THAT TIME, YOU WOULD OF COURSE BE TESTED TO SEE IF IT WAS TRUE OR NOT.

HE HAD TO INSTALL SOME PROVISIONAL SOFTWARE TO MAKE SURE THAT MOTHER WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE IT.

.AS A RESULT, NO HOSPITAL WOULD BE ABLE

AND IT WILL SPREAD TO EVERY PC CONNECTED TO IT THROUGH THE NETWORK.

AND ACCESSES THE CAPSULE INSIDE OF YOU, THE SOFTWARE WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE INSTALLED,

ONCE MOTHER IS FULLY RECOVERED

TO DETECT THE CAPSULE EITHER. THE REST SHOULD BE OBVIOUS.

CONSEQUENTLY, RIN RECEIVED SOME DAMAGE TO HIS BODY,

AND DIDN'T HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THIS.

THAT'S WHY UNTIL HE GOES HOME, RIN CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE.

I'M DEFINITELY NOT ALLOWING HIM TO DO ANYMORE THAN THIS!

IN THE END,

I ALREADY KNOW.

...BUT

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY INTENTION OF QUITTING AND STAYING AWAY FROM THIS WOMAN, DO YOU?

JUST AS YOU'D SAY YOURSELF.

ONCE THIS GUY STARTS DOING SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE'S SAKE,

HE DOESN'T CONSIDER ANYTHING ELSE AROUND HIM AND GOES THROUGH WITH IT.

THIS TIME, IT'S FOR YOUR SAKE AND KACHIKO'S THAT HE'S PUTTING ALL HIS MIGHT INTO THIS.

BESIDES YOUR MOTHER,

SHE'S THE FIRST WOMAN YOU'VE EVER BEEN IN LOVE WITH FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART, AM I RIGHT?

IF IT COMES DOWN TO CHOOSING BETWEEN KACHIKO AND THAT WOMAN,

YOU'LL USE UP ALL YOUR STRENGTH TO FIND SOME WAY TO KEEP THEM BOTH.

...
DIDJA SEE ANY-THING?
WHAT KIND OF FEELING DIDJA GET, REN?
... WELL ...
I DID SEE SOME-THING, BUT IT...
SOMEHOW...
YEAH...

...WAS IN ENGLISH?

FOR REAL?! NO WAY~~~~~~!!

AH! BUT YOU KNOW?!

SOMEHOW, PAMELA-SAN SEEMS TO LIKE A SUAVE GUY OR SOMETHING!

THAT MUCH I'M SURE OF AT LEAST.

KIND OF?

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY IT, BUT IT HAD FEELINGS?

AND THEN THIS NECKLACE—

SHE LOOKED LIKE SHE WAS REALLY HAPPY TO GIVE IT TO YOU.

IT'S PROBABLY... PART OF A SET, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF SHE ALREADY HAD ANOTHER ONE OR BOUGHT ANOTHER ONE.

POUNDS

POUNDS

EH, FOR REAL?!

AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY?

I SAW BALLOONS FLYING ALL AROUND IT.

HUH?

POUNDS

POUNDS

MAYBE THAT SOUND FROM THE DOOR MEANS MIKURO-OJISAN IS HOME.

Foood!

WRONG. DADDY WOULDN'T HAVE TO KNOCK, WOULD HE?

SHOULD WE SEE?

AND THAT'S WHEN IT LOOKED LIKE PAMELA-SAN WAS ABANDONED BY HER MOTHER...

MIKU-RO!!

OPEN UP!!

WHOA, REALLY?!

He needs three locks on the door after all.

DADDY SAID SO...

IT'S PROBABLY REALLY DANGEROUS TO GO OUT THERE.

EH?!

JAPANE-SE?!

IT'S ME! IT'S PAMELA!

I HEARD FROM SOL THAT KACHIKO'S HERE.

LET ME SEE HER! OPEN UP! HEY!!

KACHIKOOOO!
KACHIKOOOO!

SHIT!! MIKURO, WHY, I OUTTA...

I WON'T STAND FOR THIS!

Pounds

Pounds

Pounds

THAT GOT THEIR ATTENTION.

SMASH

SHUTTER...

CLUNK

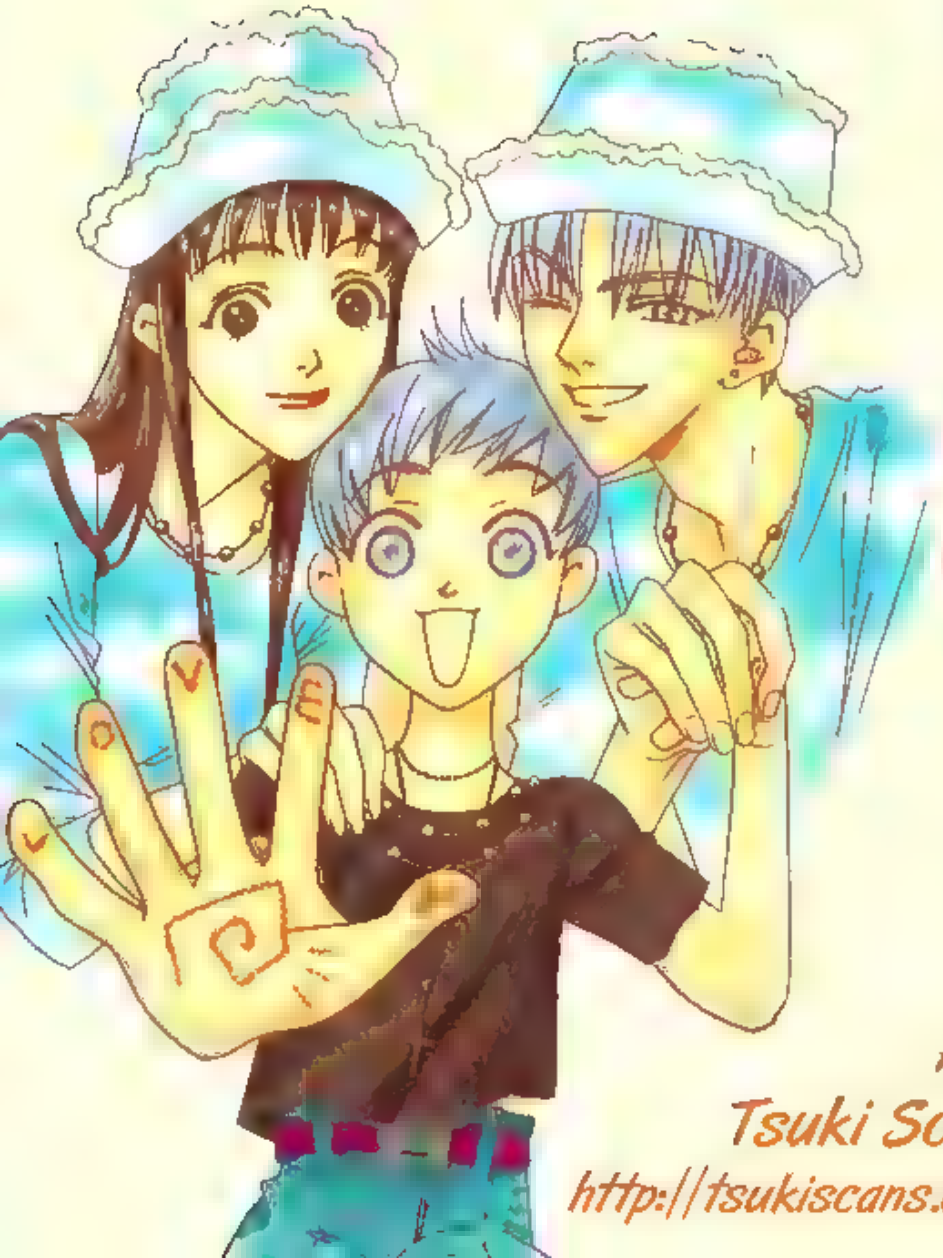
CREAKS...

.....
SORRRRRYYY.

UM. . LOOKS LIKE I BROKE ALL THE LOCKS.

I'LL PAY FOR IT.

Half, anyway



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Translator: Appaku

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Editor:Sirvia

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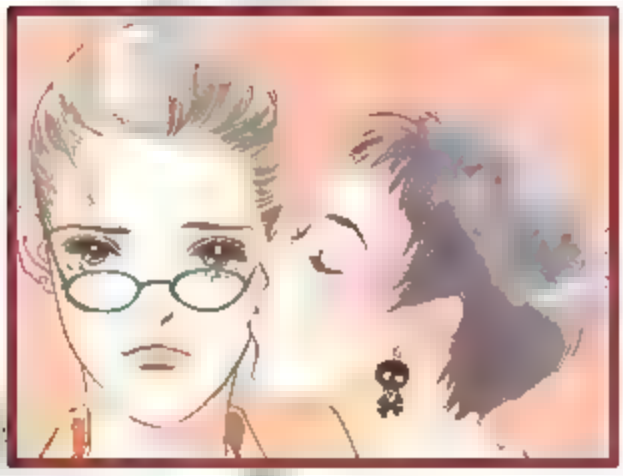

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Chapter-47-

Kachiko's Circumstances #9.

!

GASPS

AH...! IT'S A SET...!

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering 5:

It used to be that whether you were making music or manga or typing something, you had to be a pro at it to actually produce it or get close to success with it We really do live in exciting times Now anyone anywhere can make anything I guess it's not anything to be surprised about It feels like you don't even need paper to make manga anymore

For a long time, I used to think that manga was where characters came to life on paper, and the stories were always right there on top of the paper Some say that paper has god-like power (since they both sound like "kami"), I thought that there was nothing that could transmit human experience better than paper

However, Japan has a mature manga society now, and we use far too much paper I think it's time we start changing that so that we can protect our Forests

ﾌﾞﾙﾙﾙ

ﾊｯﾊｯﾊｯ

KACHIKOOOOOOOOOO!!

NNNNN~~~~!

KACHIKO!

KACHIKO!!

I GOT TO MEET KACHIKO!!

KACHIKOOO!

Squeeze

Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah ah!

EHE...

AHAHA HAHA HAHA!

Squeezes

I GOT TO MEET KACHIKO OOOOO!!

YOU'RE SO CUUUUTE!! I'M SO HAPPY~~~!!

HEHEH...

Ah ah ah ah ah a

ああはははは

I've been empty handed this whole time

I... FORGOT MY BRIEFCASE BACK AT THE OFFICE...

(GASP!)

SHAKES

SHAKES

I can make it seem like my ESP has run dry—

If I swallow this capsule

It s hard to say
if Rin's ESP waves
are the only data
that s needed

to counterbalance
your ESP waves

In other
words in order
to finish it

he needs to try
combining it with
a few other ESP
wave patterns

He s going into
this without the proper
preparation, so it s a
right if you conscietiously
give him data

Not that I
would allow it,

which is
why I gave
it to you

—Yeah,
that s right

But just
like I already
told you,

he hasn't
finished it yet

Get away from her. That should solidify your resignation won't it?

However, you must part with that woman

Anyway. Haruhiko's ESP wave data would probably be fine. Just bow and ask him for it

It's not as if it'll take that much effort to do this for your daughter's sake

Well

it's hard for me to understand

in the first place but

What... just a little bit of effort on your part and it's done. Simple isn't it?

...But I'm not like Shion-san—

...

I'd be concerned if we were the same

I FEEL LIKE "COWARD" IS THE NEXT THING HE WOULD HAVE SAID...

...However,

Why didn't you think of getting them both if you wanted them both—?

people who can't defy rumors,

and trample on other people's hearts–

He saw straight through me–

You don't have any intention of quitting and staying away from that woman, do you?

IT'S ALREADY SO LATE.

KACHIKO'S PROBABLY MAD..

I FORGOT MY—

OH, IT'S IN MY BRIEF-CASE...

AH . ! MY KEY...

...HM?

HEHH

THIS IS KIND OF

KNOCKS

KACHI-KOOO.

KIND OF NICE .

Oh yeah, Kachiko's inside.

She'll just come an' open it from the inside for me...

CLUNK

OPEN THE...

DADDY'S BACK.

Eeeeeeeeek—

Creaks!!

IT'S OPEN!!

THE REMAINS OF THE LOCK.

...WHAT THE...

ARE YOU... OKAY...

KACHIKO!!

Hi~! Welcome home, darling! ♡

THIS IS WHAT A JAPANESE WIFE WOULD BE LIKE, RIIGHT?

WILL YOU TAKE A BATH FIRST?

OR WOULD YOU LIKE SOME FOOD?

GLIMPSES

AND YOUR BELOVED DAUGHTER IS WAITING FOR YOU TOO, SEE?

HE'S TERRIBLE, HUH...

So disappointing.

DADDY DIDN'T BRING HOME ANY GIFTS?

So cute!

SORRY FOR BREAKING IT, FORGIVE ME, KAY?

AH...

OH YEAH, ABOUT THE LOCK.

S SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT ABOUT THIS

I..

I SHOULDN'T LOOK.

YOU WERE PRETTY NEGLIGENT...

...ANY-WAY.

DECLA-
RATION:

LEAVE
THE KIDS
TO ME.

YOU STAY
HERE AND SLEEP
BY YOURSELF AND
BE LONELY.

YES...?

OF COURSE 'YES'!!

ALL THESE YEARS, HOW LONELY DO YOU THINK KACHIKO WAS ALL BY HER HER-SELF?!

AND AFTER SHE'S COME ALL THE WAY HERE,

I ONLY HEAR ABOUT IT FROM SOL AND JEFF?!

WHAT'S WITH YOU?! HUH?!

WELL, WHAT ...?!

LET'S GO~~!!
LET'S GO HAVE OURSELVES A GREAT TIME!!
WELL THEN!! LET'S GO HAVE A FEAST AT MY PLACE, YOU TWO!!
DADDY?
D

HEY, UH... CAN REN AND I STAY OVER AT MOMMY'S PLACE TONIGHT, ...IS THAT OKAY?

AH... YEAH ... GO... HAVE A NICE TIME .

...OKAY!

I am Alive

..CAN I JUST..

ASK YOU ONE THING...?

HUH ...?

... UHH ...

WHY...

WHAT MADE YOU WANT... TO GIVE BIRTH... TO KACHIKO....?

WELL,

I... WANTED TO HAVE A KID...

...LET'S SEE...

... WELL ...?

YOU... AND SO... ARE... WELL... NEWLYWEDS... AND ALL...

WELL...

...EVEN SETTING THAT ASIDE, YOU DID GIVE BIRTH TO...

Yet,

I'm the
in your

getting s
wrapped u
in this

Not even
lovers.

We're not
even husband
and wife.

Even now
I can't tell.

Is it all right
to dream?

Does she
like me?

Should
I not?

Does she
hate me?

Is this
a sin?

Is there
still hope?

Why didn't you think of getting them both if you wanted them both——?

Is this
love?

Is there
not?

Why didn't I think of that...?

—Well, I might not be able to say for sure—

But what's for certain is that I do want them both.

Let's eat first!

ALL RIGHT, YOU GUYS!

WHAT DO YOU WANNA EAT?

MAKE A REQUEST!

EEHHHH HHH?!

WHAT WOULD BE GOOD, I WONDER?

I CAN'T DECIDE! MOMMY, WHAT CAN YOU MAKE?

...

CLINK

PARDON THE INTRU-SION...

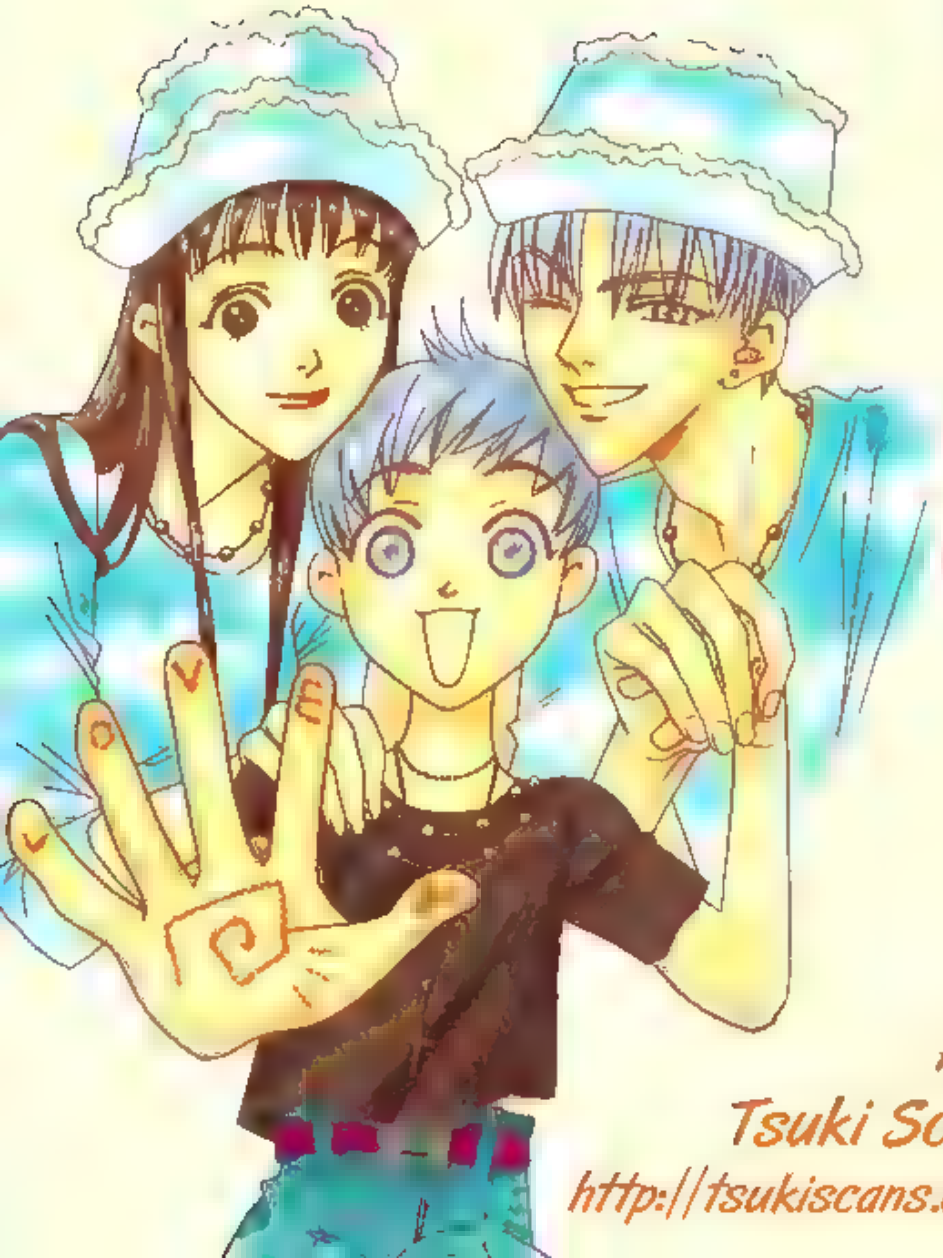
AWRIGHT!!

Let's

It's a warehouse of treasures for psychometry!!

start read-ing!!

This is a rare chance!!



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Cleaner: Hopeless

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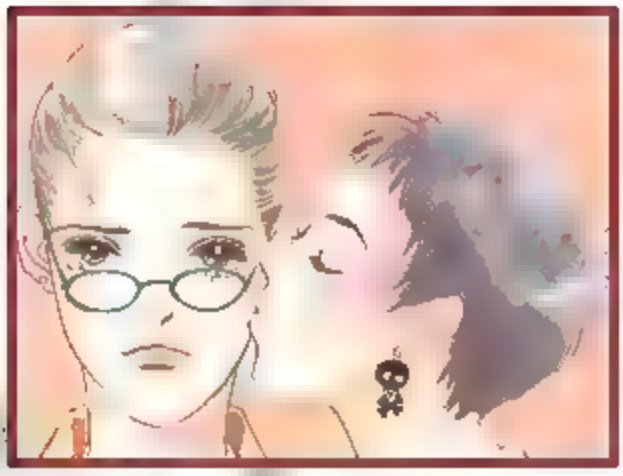

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キミは友達

You're a Friend

THIS AGAIN, BRO?

WOULD YOU READ THIS FOR ME?

THEIR LIPS? WHAT'RE THEY SAYING?

COME ON, IT'S IMPORTANT!

HEY, KOU.

YEAH?

EVERY-BODY'S OKAY WITH YOU USING IT, TOO.

IT'S ALL RIGHT, I GOT PER-MISSION!

GEEZ.

WHAT IF YOU GET CAUGHT?

BESIDES, ISN'T A COP LIKE YOU NOT EVEN SUPPOSED T' HAVE SOME-THING LIKE THIS?

It's a skill called lip reading.

LET'S SEE...

"...IT'S NOT IN THE CAR."

For some reason,

all I need to see is someone's lips moving and I can read what they're saying.

As a result ...

I've wound up honing my skills for no good reason.

Thanks to my detective brother getting use out of it,

WHISPER

WHISPER

SO SEKIDA LIKES YAMANO...

Didn't expect that

Oh...

I wind up screwing around with all my classmates' secrets.

I just wind up reading them.

SOME-THING'S HAUNTING THAT TEACHER AGAIN!

Grimaces

JWA-

Also—it's not as frequent, but I sometimes see weird stuff.

Hiwatari's Endless Chattering 6:

The chapter being included at the end of this volume has Rin as its main topic. It takes place between "Boku-Tama" and "Boku-Tsuki" before Ren even existed, so it would be helpful to have read "Boku-Tama" first. Actually, that wasn't the intention, and I wound up sketching it out as something more along the lines of "Boku-Tsuki." (laughs) How would you all classify it?

If the world is made up of our own tastes, then that's good, isn't it? Well, for the sake of these works, I think that's good. I think it's better the readers classify things rather than the writers. The reader response to this was much better than expected, so I'm thinking I should try to write more "missing link" chapters in the future. I guess this is the last column by now. Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars. Take care of yourselves, and I hope to see you again!

Hiwatari Saki,
8/20/2010

At some point, I saw that presence say "You're so mean." And then

Sometimes when this male teacher is like that,

there is an unseen presence walking around him.

And I determined whether she was a living person or a dead person.

WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?

AH, SO IT WAS A LIVING SPIRIT.

I encountered her working like a lively human at the department store.

For that reason,

I try to work out a lot of my random weaknesses, and I'm usually indifferent to bullying.

I don't have many friends,

but... well, it's pretty much like I don't have any.

...Well. With both the ability to see spirits

I probably have the option of becoming a spy... I think.

...and the ability to read lips,

YOUR TEMPERATURE IS LOW. HAVE SOME PASSION!!

CHIBI

RIN...

IT'S NOTHING .. I WAS JUST SURPRISED.

BOO!

KOU!

YOU'RE SPACING OUT WHILE WALKING AROUND!

WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT YOUR HELP?

Like 'Bang'!

YOU'LL GET TALLER THAT WAY!

LIVE BRILLIANTLY LIKE ME!

I'M LIVELY EVERY DAY!!

THE WHOLE WORLD IS SO FULL OF LIGHT!!

There is a reason why the tension is this high.

I know why.

Naturally, I know why.

This is my childhood friend, Rin.

THAT

—It's because of that.

HAHA.

His name is Kobayashi Rin,

This guy doesn't have any friends either.

and from the looks of it-

HEY, RIN!

It was right about the time we entered our second year of middle school.

YES?

RIN

RIN

YEAH?

RIN-RIN!

THEN IF I WERE TO MARRY INTO THE KOBAYASHI FAMILY,

THEN AS HUSBAND AND WIFE WE'D BE KOBAYASHI RIN-RIN, WOULDN'T WE?

Heeey, our names are the same! That's freaky!

...HELLO?

HEH.

EHE!

AHAHAHA!

KOU!

YOU IN THERE?

LEND ME YOUR NOTES FROM ENG-LISH TODAY.

DID YOU HEAR ME?

Shwip

SEE, YOU *ARE* HOME.

ARE YOU NOT HOME?

SANKYUU!

WRITE THEM YOURSELF SOMETIME.

HEY, HEY—

YOU GET THE FEELING KOBAYASHI IS REALLY SUPER COOL?

It was the first time I had seen the moment

a girl falls in love.

GOOD AT SCHOOL AND SPORTS AND MAKES FRIENDS WITH EVERYBODY, THAT KIND OF POPULAR TYPE?

SEE, ISN'T THERE ALWAYS SOMEONE WHO'S LIKE THE PRINCE OF THE CLASS?

THAT'S THE TOP-HERO TYPE.

YEAH, YEAH!

...WELL, IN OUR CLASS, I GUESS THAT'D BE KANEDA?

but,

I think that's true,

taking that all into account, the truth is, I don't like the guy much.

Actually, he's the type I hate.

The intuition of a girl in love is really sharp.

DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE THAT'S KOBAYASHI?

BUT THE REAL TOP SHADOW—

HE'S DEFINITELY TRYING NOT TO STAND OUT.

AND HIS PHYSICAL ABILITIES MUST ALSO BE TOTALLY GOOD, FOR SURE! HE JUST ACTS LIKE HE'S NOT GOOD AT STUFF!

HE DOESN'T SAY MUCH, BUT I CAN TELL HE'S SUPER SMART!

TONK

Shakes

I'M HUNGRY. BETTER GO BUY SOME BREAD.

WHY'D I SUDDENLY GET THE CHILLS...?

MAYBE I'M CATCHING A COLD...

ERK

WHAT SHOULD I EAT...

Bing

Bong

What's so fun about working that hard when you're only in your second year of middle school?

Is it because he doesn't want to stand out? What's with that?!

On the contrary, he's way too full of himself.

...It... It

...it...

It's haunting... Kobayashi...

...S...

something's there!

Wha... what?

This kind of creepy mood...

Is that his dad...?

And no matter how you look at it, that guy... is a foreigner...

I think I heard Rin say that Kobayashi's parents are both still alive.

No...

"you"

Why.

Oh, it's in Japanese.

...are

"Wh..."

...Oh, he's saying something.

Grr...

DON'T JUST STARE AT PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

AH!

YOUR NAME'S KOU, RIGHT?

AH?

WHAT DID?

IT DISAP-PEARED.

..AHH

A GHOST.

LIKE I SAID, WHAT?

WHAT WAS RIGHT NEXT TO YOU DID.

WHEN YOU GO HOME YOU BETTER HOLD A MEMORIAL SER-VICE FOR HIM,

OR-

I GOTTA TELL YOU, THIS IS BAD. THAT GHOST HAUN-TING YOU IS PRETTY SERIOUS BUSINESS.

THE AIR AROUND HIM WAS REALLY COLD AND HEAVY.

KOU!

YOU SAW IT?!

I HAVE TO HURRY AND BUY SOME BREAD!

...WHAT?

CLACK

...HEY.

WAIT A SECOND!

Why am I being so nice...

IT'S STUPID. I'M GONNA GO BUY SOME BREAD NOW.

OH, I GET IT.

YOU'RE JUST DOUBTING WHAT I SAW.

A MAN?

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

IS THAT BAD?!

AND IF I DID, SO WHAT?

HUSH

AND THEN HE TURNED TO YOU AND SAID, "WHY—"

IT WAS A TALL, PRETTY GOOD-LOOKING FOREIGN GUY WITH DARK SKIN.

HE WAS NEXT TO YOUR DESK.

...I QUIT.

DON'T TELL ME . THIS GUY IS REALLY INTO THIS FOR SOME REASON .?

NOPE. I HATE YOU, AFTER ALL.

TELL ME!

EH?

WHA... WHAT?!

SOOOORRY, I'M MEAN LIKE THAT...

SO WHAT IF YOU HATE ME, JUST TELL ME!!

IF YOU GET ZERO POINTS ON THE NEXT MIDTERM—

IF YOU CAN REALLY DO THAT, THEN I'LL TELL YOU.

...ALL RIGHT. YOU'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME IN EXCHANGE...

Three days after the mid-term,

after the results were posted —

KOBAYASHI RIN!

PLEASE COME TO THE OFFICE, RIGHT AWAY.

YEEEES

NOW!!

LIP READING, LIP READING!

This sure is convenient!

Whisper Whisper

WHAT'S UP WITH HIM?

Staaaares

UM.

"I know! I saw it.

That guy

turned in a totally blank answer sheet!"

...He really did it...

He really did it—?!

You'll definitely tell me!!

Two more laps!

RE-JECTED.

'CAUSE I KNOW YOU GOT FULL POINTS ON THE MAKE-UP TEST.

WHY WON'T YOU TELL ME?!!

THIS ISN'T WHAT YOU PROMISED, KOU!

SORRY, I'M THAT LOW!

THAT'S LOW!

EVEN THOUGH IT'S CLEAR I GOT 0 POINTS ON THE ACTUAL TEST?!

...HUH?!

THAT GUY?

...ANYWAY, WHO IS HE?

A FRIEND.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW SO BAD?

HE'S A CLOSE FRIEND.

...BUT HE'S DEAD.

I THOUGHT FOR SURE YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANY.

UNEX-PECTED? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

HAHAHA! I DON'T? THAT'S 'CAUSE I'VE GOT A BAD PER-SONALITY.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY EITHER.

OOOH?

THAT'S UNEX-PECTED.

SO YOU DO HAVE FRIENDS.

RIGHT NOW SHE WORKS PART TIME AT A DE-PARTMENT STORE...

IS THAT HE'S CHEATING WITH THE OLDER SISTER OF A GIRL IN CLASS THREE.

WHAT'S MORE

OH!

THAT GUY'S A TWO-TIMER.

THE CHEMI-STRY PRO-FESSOR!

THAT GUY—

化学教諭浜崎はフタマタ不倫中!

*The scoop! Hamazaki from the chemistry department is committing adultery!

HE DE-SERVES DIVINE PUNISH-MENT.

...

FOR REAL?

TOTALLY REAL! I HATE THAT GUY.

IT WAS KOBAYA-SHI...!

Everyone, to your class-rooms! Don't look at this!

Uproar

Uproar

THE NEXT MORNING

Uproar

Uproar

...

WHOA!

It must have been

Kobayashi.

It only took him one day to get that photo?

That guy's a nutcase—!!

He... he...

SNICKER-SNICKER

MASTER KOU?

GRINS

GRINS

He's... really funny!

NO, NO, NOT AS MUCH AS YOU, MASTER!

.. SO, ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME—

...YOU SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN WITH THIS...

He's here.

HOW ARE YOU FARING THIS FINE DAY—?

KOBAYA-SHI!

AH, KOBAYA-SHI, HERE YOU ARE!

IS IT TRUE!?

IT'S NOT, RIGHT!?

...RIN.

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY SAW YOU DO IT!!

THEY'RE SAYING YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PUT THE CUT-OUT POSTER ON THE BULLETIN BOARD.

EVERYBODY'S GOSSIPING ABOUT IT.

WHY WOULD YOU DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT...?

YOU TURNED IN

A BLANK ANSWER SHEET ON THE MID-TERM, TOO.

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN KIND OF STRANGE LATELY?

A straight answer

NO.

IT WAS ME.

Hen

AW, SHUT UP.

I'M KIND OF WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

THE ONE WHO MADE HIM DO IT

I'M GETTING REALLY WORRIED!!

YOU'RE DEFINITELY NOT THE KIND OF GIRL I'D WANT TO HAVE AS A GIRLFRIEND.

I'M REALLY NOT GOOD WITH PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

Whoosh

RIN!!

AND WHAT WAS WITH THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN?

DON'T DODGE!

DIDN'T YOU SEE THE LOOK ON RIN'S FACE?

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!

THE REASON I SAID IT LIKE THAT WAS FOR YOUR SAKE!

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

POPS

BECAUSE YOU LIKE HER!

I'LL TELL YOU JUST TO GET THIS OVER WITH.

I REALLY DO HAVE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF HATE FOR YOU, AFTER ALL.

UH-HUH, LOOKS LIKE

THOUGH IT'S A PAIN IN THE ASS!

I FEEL PRETTY MUCH THE SAME WAY AS HIM ANYWAY!

"WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE ALIVE?

I CAN'T STAND IT."
...IS WHAT HE SAID.

KOU,

ARE YOU HOME?

MOTHER

IF YOU'RE HOME, THEN I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

WHAT?

AAAAH, SORRY, BUT...

YOU'RE RIGHT, I'M LYING.

TAKE THAT!!

I JUST WANTED TO MAKE YOU MISERABLE!!

YOU'RE LYING!!

THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE ME TRANSFER TO ANOTHER LOCATION AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

YOU SEE, AT WORK..

THE ADULT WORLD IS TOUGH LIKE THAT. I'M SORRY...

DIDN'T THEY SAY IT WOULDN'T BE UNTIL NEXT YEAR?!

—WHY?!

WH...

OH.

YOUR BROTHER HAD SOMETHING HE WANTED YOU TO DO—

MORE LIP READING OFF A VIDEO.

SHWINK

Shirock 十四

WHAT?

I'M A LITTLE BUSY EATING RIGHT NOW.

RIN!

CLINK

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

SOME-HOW .YOU DON'T SEEM SO LIVELY RIGHT NOW.

BINGE EAT-ING?

THAT'S GREAT!!

REALLY?!

...IS DEFINITELY WHAT HE'S SAYING.

"I'LL BE BACK ON THURSDAY."

BUT BESIDES THAT, WHAT THE HECK WAS WITH KOBAYASHI?!

I'M SO DISAPPOINTED —THERE'S NO WAY I'D WANT TO DATE SOMEONE LIKE HIM...

CAW

CAW

SEEMS LIKE I CAN'T TELL HER RIGHT NOW THAT I'M MOVING..

pats

YOU NEVER MAKE A MISTAKE WITH YOUR LIP READING!

THOSE ARE THE WORDS WE WANTED TO HEAR!!

PHEW, THANKS KOU! SANKYUU!!

I'M OFF TO GO HANG OUT WITH MY FRIENDS!

LATER!

...SIGH.

He'd probably have told me the same thing.

—Whatever, I just want to disappear too.

TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME.

WE'LL TALK IN HR* TOMORROW.

YES, MA'AM.

IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT... PLEASE ENJOY THE REST OF YOUR TIME HERE UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH.

I UNDERSTAND.

*T/N. HR = Homeroom

Kobayashi... is still here too...

...Oh.

Who would have thought the school would be this lonely after classes have ended—

...OH?

I just understood something...

Somehow, I think

I was so thick-headed—

...KOU.

After I had been trying to find the secrets this guy hides away,

all of sudden you just find them.

That was pretty uncool of me...

YESTERDAY, WHAT YOU TOLD ME HE SAID...

IT... WAS JUST A LIE... WASN'T IT?

YEAH.

YOU'RE RIGHT, IT WAS A LIE.

WHAT HE ACTUALLY SAID WAS...

"WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS BY YOURSELF?

IS IT MY FAULT?

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST DISAPPEAR."

...
THAT'S IT.

...
EH...?
...
KO...
...
KOBA-YASHI?
CRASHES
:
clattering...
!!
?

UH...
.....

I thought just like Bro,

he'd be happy when I told him.

I, who had only thought of it lightly, suddenly took it seriously.

Time was the only thing that passed by.

he couldn't while he was crying and wandering around.

Kobayashi probably meant

to leave the classroom,

but,

I couldn't do anything.

Anything—

—Anything.

Kobayashi and his dead friend,

but,

I don't know what went on between

Why wouldn't he look back at me?

If he turned around, I'd be there.

not able to touch anything.

It was like I had my hand reaching out into space for no reason,

How come, at that time,

I couldn't—

Stupid Kobayashi.

Stupid me.

I was alive.

?

APPEARS

Shwoop

Why couldn't I take him by the arm and find a place for him to cry--?

DAMN IT.

URG ...

... DAMN.

UHAAA!

NO LOWER HALF POKING THROUGH

Hmmm!!

Ugaaa

"Thank you"

Rin was crying.

"The whole time

you silently stayed by his side

and shared his pain with him.

and never

asked him a single question."

Let's meet again.
I'll be waiting for
that time."

"You're our
friend.

Shuuu...

...

I NEVER HEARD YOU WERE MOVING! WHAT'LL I DO ABOUT ENGLISH CLASS?!
KOU!!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?!
The next day,
after I told them I'd be changing schools, Rin was suddenly very straightforward with me.
THIS SUCKS! I'LL GO SEE YOU THERE!
NO!
...THERE'S STILL TIME BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

KOBA-YASHI!

HEY!

WAIT UP.

he looked away a few times like he was really agitated, I think. ...Haha.

SHIBAURA KOU-KUN WIL- TRANSFER SCHOOL.

AT THE END OF THE MONTH,

—And, as for how *this* Rin reacted,

CAME TO MY HOUSE.

LOT Point

YOUR FRIEND...

LAST NIGHT, YOU SEE,

WH... WHAT.. DID HE SAY...?

YEAH, I WAS PRETTY SURPRISED MYSELF.

HUH?!

If I wasn't transferring, and were to just stay here by his side,

---!

just asking me forever would only wind up hurting him.

Thinking of it that way, I better just cut this off now. It's better for me to just part with him.

Ah.

NAW, THAT WAS SOMETHING JUST BETWEEN YOUR FRIEND AND ME.

IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU—

HE TOLD ME THIS MUCH:

LISTEN, OKAY?

BUT I'LL TELL YOU THIS MUCH.

FOR HIM TO HAVE SAID THAT,

IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT HE'S NOT GOING TO BE DISAPPEARING FROM YOUR SIDE ANY TIME SOON.

IT'S JUST SOMETHING YOU NORMALLY SAY TO PEOPLE WHEN THEY'RE TRANSFERRING SCHOOLS.

"LET'S MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY.

I'LL BE WAITING FOR THAT TIME."

Why

is it
that everyone
named "Rin"

gets so
straightforward
and honest in
front of me?

That's what
I thought

when I saw
him smile like
that.

—When it was
time to leave,

the last thing I read
was what Kobayashi
whispered to me

from outside
the window.

—Time went on.

And just to get across what his friend had said,

he laughed and said,

"That's from the both of us."

"Kou, we'll meet again."

I became a detective

and married Rin.

AH,

YES!

Rin got married to a diva nine years older than him,

and started selling his work as a composer...

OOOH.

OH?

YES, UNDER-STOOD!

I'LL BE ON THE LOOK OUT!

ALICE

DID THEY MAKE A COMPILATION THIS TIME?

I'LL BUY IT ONLINE

HER NEW RELEASE IS OUT!!

ALICE

IN STORE NOW

By the way,

still hasn't come—

"someday"

THAT GUY IS SUCH A SLACKER!

Boku wo Tsutsumu Tsuki no Hikari

Embraced by the moonlight

By Saki Hiwatari

V09 Extra

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One day in the wonderful world of the Esthetique Realm, a single brave soul approached our admins with the most horrible news ever...

Whisper Whisper Whisper

Shekyl Proofreader

Raijin Translator

Huh?

Katana Admin

FROZEN

Boss? Did you hear me?

WOBBLE

Oh, crap!

Katana-sama! Are you OK?

BONK!

What could've been so bad as to render all of our admins totally unconcious?

SNAP!

Was it a worldwide shortage of manga? Did shoujo manga cease to exist?

Oh, no! It was something much more sinister...

STAFF SHORT-AGES!

HUGE PILES OF TRANSLATED CHAPTERS...

SPREAD THE NEWS, WE NEED NEW EDITORS AND QC-ERS STAT!

If you think you've got what it takes, contact us at esthetiquestaff@gmail.com.

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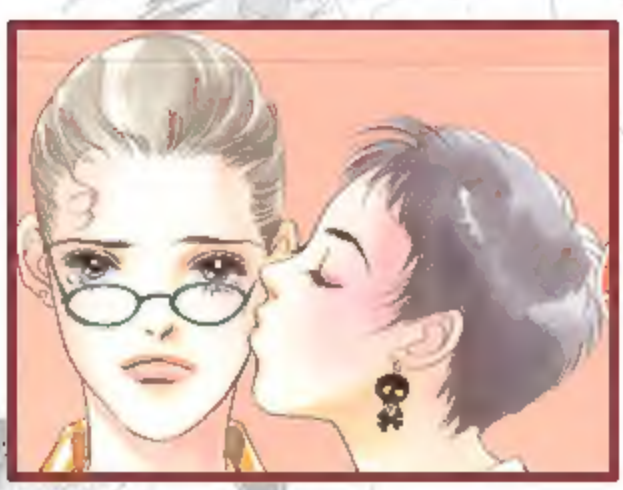

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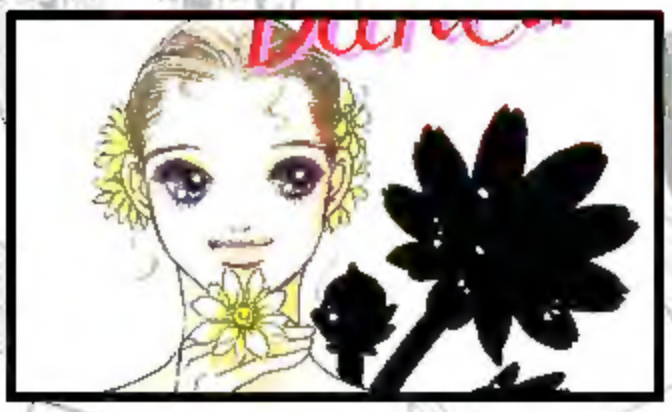

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